


# **The Book Reviews of Chester Cuthbert**

**Authors' surnames beginning with**

**Ga-Gi**



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Gabrielle (pseud, Georgina Parks)

Ruke Anehm; Philadelphia, Dorrance and Company (1938)  
139pp.

An amateur novel about angels and women. Unimportant,  
and not worth summarizing.





Gaddis, Vincent H.

The Wide World of Magic;; Illustrated; New York, Criterion  
Books; (1967, Publishers 224p.

This is an excellent introductory book to the hobby or profession of stage magic. Following an introduction demonstrating the fascination of mystery, anecdotal highlights of the lives of **Robert-Houdin**, Herrmann, Houdini, Kellar, Thurston, Blackstone and more modern minor magicians provide interesting sidelights on their careers.

A chapter on illusions, another on becoming a magician, and a closing illustrated section on individual tricks, all excepting the closing section I read, make this a good reference.

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CELEBRATING  
THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY  
1962-1987  
LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE  
C A S E F I L E

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gagnon, John H., and Simon, William (Editors)

The Sexual Scene; Second Edition, New Brunswick, New Jersey, Transaction Books (1973), (1970, 1st ed) 293p.

This is a symposium published by Rutgers University and comprises articles on various aspects of current sexual activities in many contexts. Aimed primarily at students of sociology and psychology, it conveys information which is usually only briefly summarized in newspaper articles; and its conclusions pinpoint many weaknesses in our society.

Although the absence of an index detracts from its use as a reference work, many of the articles give clear accounts of specific problems and why they are prevalent. This book is worth keeping; many of the articles are definitive within the scope of their subjects.



Gaite, Francis (pseud.) See Coles, Manning

Brief Candles; London, Hodder and Stoughton (1954) 189p.

This first book is followed by two sequels "A Family Matter" and "Come and Go". So far as I know, only the first book was published in America under the Manning Coles name.



Gaite, Francis (pseud. of Manning Coles)

Come and Go; London, Hodder & Stoughton (1958) 192p.

This is apparently the third novel concerning the adventures of James and Charles Latimer.

Richard Scroby, a relative, goes to Paris to escape the control of his Aunt Angela, taking his man Wilkins (Jeeves-type). He is pursued by three French crooks, whose burglar companion has been thrown into the hands of the British Police when Scroby catches him attempting to steal his collection of snuff-boxes. The Latimer cousins sense Richard's danger, and arrange through a Paris medium to meet Richard.

Richard falls in love with Virginia Townsend and with the assistance of the Latimers manages to get her away from her mother enough to interest her. She is studying antiques.

Aunt Angela hires a private detective agency to locate Richard and follows him to Paris. One of the French crooks sees her at the station, guesses her identity, and plans to swindle her; but she trusts him after investigating him, and ultimately makes him manager of a small hotel which she purchases as an investment. She is herself relieved of responsibility for the first time, enjoys her freedom, and realizes how Richard must feel. She meets Virginia, and blesses her and Richard.

This is light fantasy which is mostly a continuation of the situations which the ghostly Latimers create.





Gaite, Francis (Manning Coles)

The Far Traveller; London, Hodder and Stoughton (1957) 190p.

At the instigation of a descendant, a movie of the romantic life of his ancestor Graf Adhemar is being made at the castle. A disliked leading man falls downstairs and is replaced by the ghost of the Graf himself, who with his trusted servant have embodied themselves to correct the depiction of the heroine, who, with the Graf and his servant, had been drowned.

Some of the incidents are amusing, the book is well written, but the author used the exposure of a fake medium to emphasise the folly of communication with the dead. This incident, played for its humorous aspects, contradicted the whole basis of the novel, which depended on the return of the spirits of the dead.

Although reasonably interesting and unusual, this fantasy is weak and almost pointless. For any student of parapsychology or spiritualism, its faults are obvious.

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C E L E B R A T I N G  
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**FirstCity Trust**

Galbraith, John Kenneth

The Affluent Society; New York/Toronto, The New American Library (Mentor #MQ867); (1958, Galbraith); Index; 286p.

This is an important book which points out that the old "conventional wisdom" emphasising production (similar to the James Harvey Robinson "cultural lag") has resulted in goods for which advertising must create a market since they are really not needed. And since a "high" standard of living is the aim of Western industrialized society, it is measured by the quantity of goods the consumer possesses or uses. This standard has been questioned by the "beat generation", which Galbraith does not mention since it arose shortly after his book was published; and since it is really a "frill", is an unstable basis for a healthy economy; in hard times it can be dispensed with.

Galbraith points out that work is no longer a necessity due to shortage of the essentials of living, so a new class of workers has arisen who view work as an interesting way of living; careers are chosen, not for the wealth they bring or because of necessity to work (since the bulk of production is for non-essentials), but because of good working conditions or pleasure and interest of the job.

Poverty now afflicts only a minority, and is therefore lacking in political influence. It could easily be eliminated, and it is disgraceful that it has not been; but the emphasis on production of non-essentials has meant catering to personal wants rather than to projects which contribute to the public welfare; we have expensive cars, but poor city streets, lack of public personnel such as police, and faulty provision for scientific research and education.

This is probably the most thorough presentation of the thinking which could create a bridge between the economy of scarcity and the economy of plenty. Curiously, Galbraith seems to ignore the basic premise that it is the technology and energy production which makes possible the reduction or elimination of human labor, and makes inevitable unemployment of massive proportions in the near future. He does say that unemployment benefits should be generous in order to stabilize the economy and avoid depressions.

A persuasive and well-reasoned work.

Note: London, Penguin Books (Pelican #14020545), (1970), Second edition, not for sale in Canada or the U.S.A., has a good introductory section which is important in summarizing Galbraith's reaction to criticism and to the events which followed publication of the first edition. If I should decide to cut down my library, this is the edition I should keep.



Galbraith, John Kenneth

American Capitalism: The Concept of Countervailing Power (Sentry Edition #SE 18), Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company (1952, 1956, Galbraith); Index 208p.

Just as the strength of industry forced the creation of unions as countervailing power, so the strength of chains of stores forced the creation of co-operatives and government control of industry. Galbraith's theme in this book is to elucidate the formation of countervailing power and to show that the old conception of capitalism as a competitive system has become obsolete, excepting in agriculture and a few other occupations which are unsuited to combinations because their members would not give up entirely self-interest, selling in contravention of their agreements if pressed by circumstances to do so.

Galbraith scoffs at the prosecutions for monopoly. He shows that these are based on the myth of competition, which is formally maintained by business in spite of the practices which eliminate competition. He points out that inflation eliminates the fear of depression which has been a moderating factor, and makes it difficult to exercise countervailing power; yet government must control in the interests of the general good.

This is an important book, which appeared after The Affluent Society, but before The New Industrial State. It serves to illustrate the transition of Galbraith's thought.





The Great Crash 1929; Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company,  
1961; Index 212p.

This book gives a clear description of the market which led to the 1929 crash, and the reasons for the decline in cash value of so many securities. Much of the maneuvering of high finance was responsible for the pyramiding effect of so-called holding companies, investment trusts, mergers, and highly leveraged corporations; and when the falling market reversed the leveraging effect, the bondholders and preferred stockholders were the only people protected, the common shareholders having no equity left to give value to their stock. It is this disappearance of market value in a credit crunch which causes an apparent loss of billions of dollars: the companies whose stock goes down in market value are still operative, but if no one wants the stock, it has no value.

Because companies invest in the stocks of others, falling markets reduce the cash assets everywhere (the domino effect). The "real" value of the companies is not affected, but because of the reduction in market value of all types of securities, money is harder to get in return for the collateral available. Retrenchment in purchasing causes cutbacks in production; this leads to unemployment, which further reduces purchasing power, and ultimately causes restrictive practices all along the line, until a depression is underway.

I do not see that it is possible to re-arrange my own situation to avoid the consequences of overall inflation, or deflation. It is quite apparent from this book that confidence in economic theory is based on an illusion; hard reality shows that so-called security is little more than a frame of mind, and one must avoid panic and hold fast to that which is good.

Although this book describes what happened, it does not suggest any alternative to our present market system of securities. I believe that I have a fairly sound idea of values, and have safeguarded my position as much as possible.





Galbraith, John

In the New Capital; or, The City of Ottawa in 1999.;  
Toronto, The Toronto News Company Limited, 1897. Price 40¢  
151p.

The title-page indicates the author to have been a Barrister-at-Law, Osgoode Hall, Toronto, Ont. In the form of fictionized conversations taking place in June, 1896, he interviews a French-Canadian Quebecer who has been displaced from his job of bootmaker by machinery; Lincoln Brown, a colored man who at 14 got a job as cashboy in a store while his brother George made more money as a bootblack; an American named Jackson who illustrated the benevolent encroaching of U. S. capital to control Canadian life; and Farmer Jones, who improved his land and was taxed on the improvements while his lazy neighbor did nothing but received more for his land when he sold it, simply because of the improvements made to their land by his neighbors, and who was in search of his errant daughter. Socialist Paddy Hogan, a baker also displaced by machinery, explains his situation and outlines his views towards alleviating unemployment. The narrator discovers Nellie Jones in a house of prostitution, and is persuaded that she is there by economic necessity.

The first 94 pages of the book having been devoted to outlining the socio-economic conditions of 1896, the balance of the book describes in detail a dream induced by drugs, in which he visits Ottawa in the year 1999 and sees a socialistic monarchy, the Canadians having adopted the British system of titles, but using a government entitled the National Progressive Democracy. As is usual in socialistic systems, there are contradictory factors: the ideal is that everyone should work and that labor of any kind should receive equal economic reward, for instance:

"All men shall receive the full value of their time and labor.

"No man shall live on a portion of another's labor." Yet the author apparently sees no inconsistency when he says:

"One township councillor a Knight for 500 people and 50¢ per hour while actually engaged, and not to exceed a certain limit; one county councillor, a Baron for each 2,000 people, with 75¢ per hour while engaged", etc.

Although quite apparently an altruistic and idealistic attempt to offer suggestions for social and economic betterment of the Canadian people, both the problems and the solutions are oversimplified, and qualified criticism would soon show the flaws both in facts and in reasoning. The book is, however, an interesting example of an attempt by a Canadian to produce a science fiction novel or fantasy comparable with Edward Bellamy's "Looking Backward". The fiction is merely an attempt to sweeten the economic views for popular acceptance, however; and this is fictionized economics rather than fantastic fiction.



Galbraith, John Kenneth

The New Industrial State; Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company (1967, Galbraith), Index 427p.

This important book follows The Affluent Society and describes the largest industrial companies as being self-contained states which work in mesh with government, particularly those in defense manufacture and the space effort. These companies are independent of outside capital for the most part, since they generate money internally, and work through committees and as teams, and not on the basis of the former entrepreneur business which was ruled by the owner.

Galbraith shows that market demand is created by the manufacturers, who then plan production to satisfy that artificially induced demand. Because of the huge investment of capital and manpower, planning is essential, and price is set not on the basis of maximum return, but on the desire to increase production and maintain the company as a going concern. The shareholder owners are pacified by dividends, but the aim of the company is to establish itself as an ongoing entity.

Galbraith considers the GNP as being a fetish built up mainly of unnecessary goods to support a high standard of living which in great part ignores the aesthetic and artistic values of life. The "Cold War" he considers a manufactured state of mind necessary to make acceptable the high expenditures which keep the industrial state in operation. He warns that the arms race is dangerous and suicidal, and sees no reason why it should not be replaced by disarmament.

He points out that the intellectuals, teachers, university research departments and technical training schools are an absolute necessity for the industrial companies, and that these should exercise their power. He shows that a shortage of trained personnel co-exists with a large unemployment army because of the failure to adapt educational institutions to the requirements of the technostucture.

There is much more in this book than is susceptible to summarization, but fortunately the index will serve as a good guide to discussion.

New American Library (Signet #Y3637), (October, 1968), Sixth Printing 430p.





Gallico, Paul

Love of Seven Dolls; New York, Avon Publications, Inc.  
(1954, Gallico) (Doubleday) 122p.  
Penguin Books (#1945), (1963) (1954, Joseph) 91p.

A country French girl is dismissed from a carnival because she is incompetent and not sufficiently beautiful to attract crowds. About to drown herself, she is talked out of the intention by seven puppets, controlled by Michel Peyrot, 35 years old, cynical, evil, determined to pull everyone down to his own level, but who finds that his dolls seem to have an independent existence of their own, and characters which develop their personalities.

Peyrot agrees that Mouche may accompany the puppeteer and the puppets, and she engages in amusing conversations with them, attracting crowds and money. He debauches Mouche, but is unable to destroy her innocence which the puppets aid her to maintain. Following his dismissing her from his bed so that he may replace her with a strumpet, she is attracted to an acrobat who treats her kindly, but is narcissistic. Peyrot avoids her, but jealously forbids the acrobat to see her; in a fight, Peyrot loses badly, and Mouche agrees to marry the acrobat. The final performance with the puppets is beautiful and sad; following the performance the dolls meet and threaten suicide because she is leaving them. Thrusting aside the curtain behind which Peyrot has hidden for weeks, Mouche understands from his sadness that he loves her, and confesses her own love for him.

This is a nicely written little fantasy, indicating that even in the most evil person some balancing good is evident; and that love is the key to that good.



Another Sheaf; London, William Heinemann (1919) 262p.

The first 190 pages of this book are devoted to essays on the first World War and the author's continuing appeal to his country to avoid building up the towns by taking farmers from the land, and to become self-sufficient in producing food in view of the dangers posed by submarines and aircraft, which might prohibit the importation of food.

The rest of the volume is a series of dialogues between an Angel and his dragoman guide to conditions in England, the guide informing the Angel prettu much along the lines previously given in the essays. These dialogues forecast the future as if it were known, and since they are like Eric Linklater's fantasies of like kind, some source influenced me to place this book in my fantasy collection.

Since it is a mixture of essays and extrapolation, I am filing the book in my non-fiction, the preponderance of material being non-fiction.

Coalition for Reproductive Choice,  
Box 51, Station "L",  
Winnipeg, Man.  
R3H 0Z4.

Dear Choice Supporter:

You are invited to a Choice Celebration. We will celebrate the first anniversary of the Supreme Court Decision recognizing a woman's right to reproductive freedom. We will honour Dr. Henry Morgentaler, who fought with us to win this right.

A Choice Celebration begins at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 16, 1989, at the International Inn. A presentation to Dr. Morgentaler will be made at 8:00 p.m. Wine and cheese will be served.

We hope to accomplish two goals from this event. First, we intend to develop resources to lobby the Federal Government regarding the introduction of any restrictive legislation on abortion. We need the voice of Manitobans to be heard. We have a critical role to play in the upcoming debate.

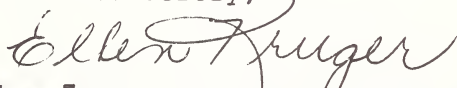
Second, we want to mount a legal challenge to the Provincial Government's decision to refuse to pay for abortions outside of hospitals. We know that abortions in approved medical facilities such as community health clinics are safer and less costly. We believe the government is acting unethically, perhaps unconstitutionally.

Tickets for this Choice Celebration are available at a cost of \$25.00. Larger donations are welcomed. Benefactors, who contribute \$200.00 and over and donors (\$100.00 - \$199.00) will be acknowledged in the evening's program.

Tickets can be purchased at Bold Print, 478-A River Avenue, the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women, 16 - 222 Osborne Street, Times Change Restaurant on Main and St. Mary's, or the National Council of Jewish Women at the Gwen Selter Creative Living Centre, 1588 Main Street. Reservations will be accepted by mail at the Coalition for Reproductive Choice.

Please join us, to celebrate our past victory, to honour Dr. Morgentaler, and to help ensure that our right to reproductive choice will be retained.

Yours sincerely,



**Choice** A campaign for reproductive freedom  
♀



Galsworthy, John

The Forsyte Saga; New York, Charles Scribner's Sons,  
1927; 870p.

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On Forsyte 'Change; London, William Heinemann Ltd.,  
(October, 1930, 1935 reprint) 292p.

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2. Sands of Time, 1821-63	17
3. Hester's Little Tour, 1845	29
4. Timothy's Narrow Squeak, 1851	41
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19. Soames and the Flag, 1914-1918	257

These are short stories narrating incidents in the lives of the characters featured in "The Forsyte Saga". #6 is the best example of the tyranny of sex. By themselves, these stories are too slight, but read with a clear memory of the Saga they extend and humanize the characters.



"Ganpat"

Harilek: A Romance; New York, Grosset & Dunlap; (1923,  
Houghton Mifflin Company) 336p.

This is a "lost race" novel with elements of fantasy.

Harry Lake, whose name is pronounced as the title by a Greek girl Aryenis he finds isolated from the outer world, with two companions and some servants crosses a desert and rescues her from death by the Shamans, evil enemies of her people. Joining forces with her people, they defeat the Shamans.

A rather silly (in the telling) romance develops with the usual hesitations of choosing one another, but deeds of valour by Harry convince the girl of his love.

The story is one of fights and romantic interludes, in tone much like the gallantry of H. Rider Haggard, in imitation of whose romances this appears to be.

I found the telling much too detailed for my taste, but quite in line with the old time fantastic adventure stories.

A continuation of this story is Wrexham's Romance. Wrexham was an engineer companion of Lake, his other friend being Forsyth, a doctor.



## "Ganpat"

Mirror of Dreams: A Tale of Oriental Mystery; Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., 1928 (First Ed) 330p.

Tom Carruthers dreams, and on a trip to Asia finds a mirror which enables him to visualize the dreams while awake, of events and people whom he has never known. His friend John Oxley is invalided; and goes with him to Tibet, where they find the City of Vision, ruled over by Tom's grand-uncle who is known as the Master, and who has another mirror in which he is able to see distant scenes, and future events. This City has existed, hidden in the mountains, since pre-glacial civilizations; and has carried down through the ages knowledge of mental powers now lost to most of the human race.

The Master has tried to train Dhyan, his granddaughter, to read the Mirror of Vision and to know the hidden lore, but she, like her mother is interested only in the normal conditions of living. Tom has seen Dhyan in his Mirror, as she has seen him in her grandfather's; they meet and love; foil a black magician, Dhyananda, who has designs on Dhyan and the treasure of the City of Vision; and return to England after passing safely through adventures and peril usual to such romances.

This is little better than average of "lost race" tales; and of little more than noticeable value in a fantasy collection.





Ganpat

The Three R's; Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday, Doran & Co., Inc., for The Crime Club, Inc.; 1930-1931; First Edition 317p.

This is a secret service and world peril novel following the Sax Rohmer formula; chemical warfare requiring a source of radium is the only science-fictional element in the novel. It is fairly good, but there is nothing of permanent value in it; it is of no importance in a fantasy collection.

Month - Last Yr.

Month - Current Yr.

Yr-to-Date Last Yr.

Yr-to-Date Current Yr.

Ganpat

Wrexham's Romance being a continuation of "Harilek";  
with a Sketch Map of Sakaeland by Wrexham; London, Hodder &  
Stoughton Limited, 1935 316p.

The first chapter provides a summary of the earlier book which is adequate as background for this sequel, which is narrated by Wrexham instead of Harry Lake.

The early part of the book was fairly interesting, but concentrated on romance and intrigue rather than action and adventure. The last part of the book described the war and the eventual settling of Wrexham with Chaista to life in isolation from the world because the loss of the camels made desert travel impossible.

I found it a struggle to get through the book. The war scenes which constituted the main action parts of the book involved foregone conclusions which detracted from suspense; and the romantic part was also predictable. The heroine's brother's redemption from wimp to manhood was a good touch, and the elderly lady's frank admission of sexual attraction to Wrexham was humorous and unusual, but obviously calculated.

With what I have read previously of this author, I do not feel that I should give other books of his precedence over more attractive material.



Circuit; Toronto, Anansi, 1970

197p.

Contents

1. These are the Sacred Places	1
2. Visions Before Midnight	81*
3. Death by Toilet	103

Although subsidized by the Canada Council, I am unable to see that these stories convey anything of value. The 1st appears to portray people who are also actors and who find difficulty in relating themselves to anything but their acting roles. The second is simply the appearance to the narrator of a friend's ghost. The third is the description of a Count who becomes obsessed with women's faeces, and dies from possibly overexcitement about a girl child's movement.

There are some passages in these stories which indicate that the author may have the ability to write meaningfully, but these are so seldom invoked that incoherence is the norm.



Garden, Nancy

Devils and Demons; Illustrated; Philadelphia and New York,  
J. B. Lippincott Company; (1976, author); Bibliography; Index 160p

A volume in the Weird and Horrible Library, this quality paperback is an elementary introduction to the subject, surprisingly comprehensive for such a short book. It is well-written and does not scorn the beliefs of people throughout the ages, objectively and with occasional humor presenting the facts.

I was particularly impressed by the treatment of possession which is quite open-minded. The Catholic Church accepts the reality of the phenomenon, though its interpretation may be biased.

A useful little book.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
February 28, 1999

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**FirstCity Trust**



Gardner, Martin

Fads and Fallacies in the Name of Science; (formerly published under the title In the Name of Science); New York, Dover Publications, Inc. (#T394); Revised and expanded edition, 1957, author; Appendix and Notes; Index 363p.

In this case the quality paperback is superior to the original hardcover edition, particularly for the notes.

Gardner impresses me as fair-minded and this book is very thoroughly researched. He deplores the prevalence of publishing by reputable publishers of pseudo-scientific books without having them previously assessed by competent scientists, but admits that pseudo-scientists keep alive the spirit of exploration necessary to new discoveries.

Of all the sceptical books I have read, this is the most interesting to readers of science fiction because Gardner refers to science fiction and fantasy magazines and authors. His comments on Hubbard and Campbell and van Vogt provide facts previously unknown to me, and even Heinlein does not escape his notice.

Many of the chapters deal with occult "sciences" of which I am totally ignorant, but I trust his judgment about avoiding the waste of time which he spent investigating them.

Coupled with Rawcliffe's book which I read immediately before this, I feel convicted of being unduly credulous and a crank. I have, however, not changed my view that psychic phenomena are important and should be carefully investigated by competent scientists.

In a Winnipeg Free Press article dated September 22, 1998 my friend Chris Rutkowski is quoted:

"As a scientist, these are things that can't be explained. But as a social scientist, it doesn't matter whether they exist or not. They exist in people's minds. People believe these things exist and that's enough." (He was commenting on a book of allegedly true ghost stories. CDC)

I remember being asked by a fellow employee if I believed in dreams. I said, "Certainly; I dream every night." Gardner does not dismiss such phenomena of the unconscious, and he and most sceptics acknowledge that many dreams are inspirational and often instructive in solving problems the conscious mind has failed to answer.

Gardner also admits that qualified scientists also are human and make mistakes. His book is both cautionary and instructive, and I recommend it highly.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
October 4, 1998

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gardner, Martin

In the Name of Science; New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons,  
(1952, author); Index of names 320p.

I was about to read this book when I discovered that I had a copy of Dover quality paperback T394 entitled Fads and Fallacies in the Name of Science which is the Second Edition, revised and expanded. See my notes under this better edition.

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October 4, 1998

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**FirstCity Trust**

Garis, Howard R.

Tam of the Fire Cave; New York & London, D. Appleton  
and Company, 1927; front. 258p.

This well-written story of primitive man was written for juveniles, but can profitably be read by adults. It portrays the day-to-day life and struggle for existence; and the character of Tam, a cripple who thinks and becomes the first cave-artist of his tribe, is well-drawn.

The story is of Tam's father being imprisoned by another tribe, and of the two expeditions which sought to release him. The success of the second expedition is aided by Tam's discovery of the hollow-log canoe in which warriors can be secreted.

This book can illustrate instructively the life of primitive man, but there is only a hint of fantasy relating to the belief in a future life.



Garland, Hamlin

Companions on the Trail: A Literary Chronicle; Decorations  
by Constance Garland; New York, The Macmillan Company, 1931;  
(1931, author) 539p.

Mainly a realistic writer of the American middle west, I am interested in him mainly for his books on psychic phenomena. He mentions the subject on pages 114, 186 and on pages 234 and 235 he mentions basing it on twenty years of contacts with sensitives and "also from the experiences of my mother and one of her sisters who confessed that for several years the 'invisibles' had made life a hell for her." The Tyranny of the Dark he later felt injured his literary reputation because it differed from his chosen work as a regionalist; but I consider it one of the most soundly based and interesting novels ever written on the subject.

Another special interest of mine he touches on is Mary McLane on pages 147-8 and 347.

On pages 373-4 he mentions The Witching Hour by Augustus Thomas<sup>†</sup> and his surprise that the audience accepted it favorably though it dealt with telepathy.

In Chapter 28 he describes his personal experiences with a woman medium and the inexplicable consequences. This chapter is important.

On page 398 he tells of Robert H. Davis describing the character of William Randolph Hearst.

On page 400 he mentions The Servant in the House by Charles Rann Kennedy. Later in the book he says he discussed with Frances Hodgson Burnett the subject of spiritualism and I have read her little book about it.

Throughout the book he describes his encounters with famous writers of his time like Frank Norris, Vachell Lindsay, Ernest Seton Thompson, Arnold Bennett, George Bernard Shaw, and many others of lesser interest to me.

I wish I had his book The Shadow World. I read Forty Years of Psychic Research many years ago, and, like me, he accepted the phenomena but not Spiritualism.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
April 8, 1999



# CUSTOMER CENTRE

MANITOBA



FORTY YEARS OF PSYCHIC RESEARCH: A Plain Narrative of Fact  
by Hamlin Garland. Macmillan, New York, 1936.

In 1891, Garland was living in an attic study in Boston, an aspiring writer with a keen interest in positive science. A student of ~~positive~~ ~~science~~ Herbert Spencer, he counted himself an agnostic and an evolutionist.

B. O. Flower, mystic, editor of the Arena, the leading radical magazine of the day, was a spiritualist; a student of Darwin with a special regard for Alfred Russel Wallace. Proposing the organization of the American Psychical Society, he said: "Nominally, there is an American branch of the English Society, but actually the organization consists of one man, Hodgson, the resident secretary, who does very little but draw his salary. We are determined to do something in the way of experimental research."

Amos Emerson Dolbear, professor of physics at Tufts College, was a typical Yankee, thin, keen-eyed, quick-spoken, and dryly humorous. In physique and the cut of his beard he suggested "Uncle Sam". His experience with metaphysical phenomena was slight, but he was willing to investigate. Physicist and inventor, author of book on matter and motion. Sceptic. With Garland, formed committee on physical phenom. Dr. Minot J. Savage, a scholarly and highly respected Unitarian clergyman, was committed to spiritualism. Pres. of Society.

Rabbi Solomon Schindler, a sceptical member, of the board, was one of the best known Jewish speakers in Mass., a sturdy, scholarly man of German birth.

Reverend Ernest Allen, secretary, was a blond, smiling, curly-haired man; although committed to the spirit hypothesis, he remained a very keen investigator. He had an orderly mind and made numbered precise statements of his theories. He was to edit the Journal.

In Garland's youth, he had heard his father describe his mother as a young girl acting the part of a medium. Garland's grandfather's house in southern Wisconsin, during the early fifties, had been a stage, on which Garland's mother, a girl of 10 or 12 and her brother Franklin, 5, had been chief actors, in mysterious happenings.

"Settlers came from all parts of the country to hear mysterious raps and see tables move without apparent ~~cause~~ cause. Charis would follow Isabelle up the stairs, and Frank, a little shaver who couldn't read or spell a word, wrote on slates long messages full of cuss-words and obscene threats. It was this development in Frank's case which led your Grandfather McClintock to stop it all. 'It is the work of the devil,' he declared."

One of Garland's aunts, a gentle, lovely character, confirmed: "Yes, these forces made my life a hell for two years."

Dolbear went to Virginia to investigate an amply authenticated case of a haunted well in which, as one peered down it, one could see faces on the water, faces not accounted for at the curb.



Garland, Hamlin

The Tyranny of the Dark; Illustrated; London and New York,  
Harper & Brothers, 1905; (May, 1905, author) 439p.

The author is famous in American literature as a regional writer. I had previously read only his autobiographical account of his personal investigations Forty Years of Psychic Research.

To the best of my recollection, this is the only important novel based on a thorough knowledge of the parapsychology of his time. It is a wonderful portrayal of a group of characters whose lives center about the phenomena exhibited by a natural girl medium, told mainly from the point of view of a young biologist who falls in love with her and despite his original skepticism comes to accept the reality of the phenomena although he discounts and deplores the influence of a band of spirits headed by the girl's deceased grandfather.

The book is beautifully bound in blue cloth with gold ornamental and lettering, and I shall prize it as among my favorite novels; it is probably the best of its kind ever written, if it is not, indeed, unique.

Only Edward Bulwer-Lytton, Robert Hichens, Algernon Blackwood E. F. Benson and Philip Gibbs come even close to understanding and describing psychic phenomena as Garland does. My own opinion is that he may be too harsh in denouncing spiritualism, because I am aware of too many people who have benefitted from their belief, whether it is a mistaken one or not. It is the nature of the belief and its effects, rather than its truth or falsity, which is important. I know many fine people with whose beliefs I disagree.

I would urge anyone of average intelligence to read this novel if they wish to understand parapsychology without reading the textbooks or even the popular non-fiction books on the subject. It is a balanced and critical fictional portrayal, and an interesting story.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
February 2, 1996.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Garnett, David

The Grasshoppers Come; London, Chatto & Windus, 1931;  
Wood Engravings by R. A. Garnett 101p.

Although listed in the first edition of the Bleiler Checklist, I did not consider this novel to be fantasy. It deals with two men and a woman whose plane crashes in a desert; the injured pilot resorts to eating grasshoppers when the other two people leave him in search of rescue.

Well written, but of little importance.

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Garnett, richard

The Twilight of the Gods; and Other Tales; Harmondsworth,  
Middlesex, Penguin Books (#586) (1947), (1888) 183p.

I had previously read nine of these tales from the Thinker's Library edition, but this reprint of the original edition is very much superior, even having nearly three pages of notes.

Some of the additional stories appealed more to me than the ones reprinted in the Rationalist edition, and this paperback is to be retained for reference rather than the hardcover.

See my notes on my earlier reading. My impressions are not greatly modified.

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**FirstCity Trust**



Garnett, Richard

The Twilight of the Gods and Other Tales; London, Watts & Co. (The Thinker's Library, No. 81), (1940), (1888) 118p

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The first edition contained 16 stories; twelve were added by John Lane in an edition published in 1911, so this selection of nine was probably chosen to support the rationalist view of the publisher.

I found them too literary and obscure because they would appeal most to classical scholars familiar with mythology and the history of the Roman Catholic Church. There is humor and satire with some wisdom and sophistication displayed, and for intellectual enjoyment these tales are recommended. They do not appeal greatly to my more plebian taste.

Note: Subsequently, I read the Penguin Books reprint of the first edition of this book, and the paperback is superior. This may be discarded.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Garnier, Christine

Fetish; Translated by Naomi Walford; New York, G. P.  
Putnam's Sons; (1952, Editions Bernard Grasset 250p.

Told in the first person by Doelle, black mistress of a white magistrate in French West Africa, this is a love story threatened when the beautiful wife of a doctor about to end his term of employment and return to France asks her to become familiar with his surroundings. She immediately falls in love with the magistrate, and their infatuation leads Doelle to get a servant of the doctor to poison his wife gradually in the coconut milk she drinks each day.

When Doelle's younger sister becomes pregnant while in a convent, she is punished and dies. This loss and the failing health of the doctor's wife cause Doelle to call off the poisoning, but she loses the love of the magistrate and the book ends with her feeling that she may some day marry a black man of her own standing.

Free to experiment with and enjoy sex before marriage, any lapse of fidelity after marriage is severely punished. Doelle has enjoyed sex with a native boy who assists her in the poisoning conspiracy, but she fails to keep her promise to marry him as his reward.

On page 140 the only clairvoyant incident directly made is described, but extrasensory perception is used literarily in other parts of the story as a device for knowing by Doelle of matters which she could not witness. This love story is of more interest to women than to men, and is of little importance in a fantasy collection, but the exposition from a native's point of view is valuable sociologically.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Garrett, Eileen J.

Adventures in the Supernormal: A Personal Memoir; New York,  
Garrett Publications, Inc. (1949, author) 242p.  
New York, Paperback Library, Inc. (#54-674); May, 1968 175p.

Quite apart from its importance as the autobiography of a famous psychic, this is a fascinating and beautifully written and intelligent disclosure of a life, often disturbed by ill-health and tragic family problems, devoted to a search for information which might explain her faculties. The closest similar autobiography known to me is Rosalind Heywood's.

From childhood, Eileen saw "the Children" a boy and girl who assuaged her loneliness but were imperceptible to other people; experienced telepathic and clairvoyant messages, and visions of future events which assured her of the simultaneous existence of past, present and future capable of access by humans.

She subjected herself to experiments by many authoritative psychologists and psychic researchers, but found her results in connection with Rhine's Zener cards unproductive because they did not convey the emotional force applicable to personal messages from human beings.

This is the first of her own books that I have read, but she has been praised and her phenomena confirmed throughout her life by foremost researchers.

Born in Ireland, Eileen communed with nature and saw the auras of people and other living things which conveyed information to her concerning their basic natures. She killed ducklings and saw the departure of their life-essence.

Despite ill-health she became a successful businesswoman and ultimately a wealthy publisher who subsidized investigators into parapsychology.

The paperback edition has a short introduction by Hugh Lynn Cayce which does not appear in the hardcover edition.

I recommend this book to anyone willing to acknowledge the existence of a genuine psychic.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
November 18, 1996

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Garrett, Eileen J.

Awareness; New York, Creative Age Press, 1945; (1943, author)	
3rd ptg	308p.
New York, Berkley Publishing Corporation (#S1612); October,	
1968	223p.

In this book, Eileen tries to express her belief that psychic awareness is an extension of normal sensory perception and not a supernormal faculty. She admits her acceptance of communication with the dead, but recommends that this should be limited to the necessary unresolved problems which tie the dead to our world, and recommends that they should be released to advance their own lives in their new environment.

The most interesting chapters give details of events in her life which are summarized in her autobiographies. Some of the chapters require close study, and seem too detailed, possibly because she is trying to describe events for which our language is inadequate.

This is, I believe, her longest book, and requires study. She was a wise woman of varied experience, with special insight into the characters of others and with healing power.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
November 23, 1996

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**FirstCity Trust**



Garrett, Eileen J.

Life is the Healer; Philadelphia, Dorrance & Company; (1957, Publishers); Bibliography 272p.

In this book, Eileen gives sound advice to people to know themselves and stand on their own feet regardless of the opinions of others. Even to the offer of dietary and exercise, she bases her advice on a wide range of reading, astonishing in a woman who travelled much, was sick for long periods of time, and spent her life helping others.

The more I read of her books, the more I admire and respect her as a truly wise woman. She revealed much that most writers would hesitate to admit, but I believe that her honesty made her advice all the more valuable.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
November 23, 1996

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**FirstCity Trust**

Garrett, Eileen J.

Many Voices: The Autobiography of a Medium; with an Introduction by Allan Angoff; London, George Allen and Unwin Limited 1969; (1968, author); Index 254p.

New York, Dell Publishing Company, Inc. (#5318); (May, 1969) Index 236p.

I am delighted that this last book I have of hers incorporates an index because it deserves attention as a reference to the varied life of a wise and genuine medium whose acquaintance worldwide with important scientific and literary personalities is disclosed with candor and perception.

More general and much less personal than her earlier autobiography, this summarizes her life interestingly, but less clearly near the end of the book than her earlier work. Still undecided about the nature of her controls, she also expresses reservations about some of her earlier convictions concerning spiritualism.

One very fascinating section of the book covers her investigation psychically of the scene and personality of Mrs. Annie Palmer, The White Witch of Rosehall, and her mention of the book of that title by Herbert G. de Lisser. In fact, this led me to read the novel, which is very well written and interesting.

Among the literary men she knew were George William Russell (A.E.), Arnold Bennett, Algernon Blackwood, Aleister Crowley, William Brown, Herward Carrington, Arthur Conan Doyle, Lord Dunsany, Hamlin Garland, James Reynolds, Robert Graves, Aldous Huxley, James Joyce, D. H. Lawrence, Sir Oliver Lodge, Somerset Maugham, E. Phillips Oppenheim, A. R. Orage, Middleton Murray, Eden Philpotts, Harry Price, J. B. Rhine, George Bernard Shaw, James Stephens, Thomas Sugrue,, Rabindranath Tagore, H. G. Wells, Stewart Edward White and W. B. Yeats.

Eileen earned her important standing in the science of parapsychology, and she will never be forgotten.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
November 28, 1996

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**FirstCity Trust**

Garrett, Eileen J.

The Sense and Nonsense of Prophecy; New York, Creative Age  
Press; (1950, author) 279p.  
New York, Berkley Publishing Corporation (#S1636) 173p.

Note: My copy of the paperback lacks the title and copy-  
right and earlier pages; appears to have been misbound.

This is, apart from her autobiography, the most interesting  
and readable of her books, revealing a vast number of important  
people she has known, and discussing the so-called occult sciences  
with commonsense, wit and wisdom. Considering her frail health,  
this woman accomplished much in the mundane world and established  
her reputation as one of the world's greatest psychics.

She is frank to admit that she was unable to decide whether  
her "controls" were independent personalities or divisions of her  
own psyche.

Her dedication to the scientific study of parapsychology was  
influential in promoting the subject in universities worldwide.

Not least of this book's attractions is the excellent style  
of writing. Her unique point of view enabled her to give advice  
superior to most writers.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
November 23, 1996

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**FirstCity Trust**

Garrett, Eileen J.

Telepathy: In Search of a Lost Faculty; New York, Creative Age Press, Inc., 1945; (1941, publishers); 3rd ptg; Introduction by Eugene Rollin Corson; Bibliography 21op.

Eileen insists that telepathy is a normal function of human beings lost through disuse and replaced by mechanical means of communication. In this, she agrees with the great mentalist Joseph Dunninger who claimed that he was not psychic but agreed with Charles Richet that a sixth sense exists and who used it in his stage and seance exhibitions.

In attempting to explain this faculty, Eileen uses language which does not clearly express her meaning to me, but I realize that she is trying to explain in words of common usage something extrasensory or an extension of normal sensation.

Because she was herself subject to telepathic messages, this book is an important and original contribution to the extensive literature on the subject.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
November 18, 1996.

Note: New York, Berkley Medallion Book (#S1602), September, 1968 is preceded by an Author's Note 159p.

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Arvett, Garret

"The Blue Hound"

G. P. Putnam's Sons,

New York + London, 1921

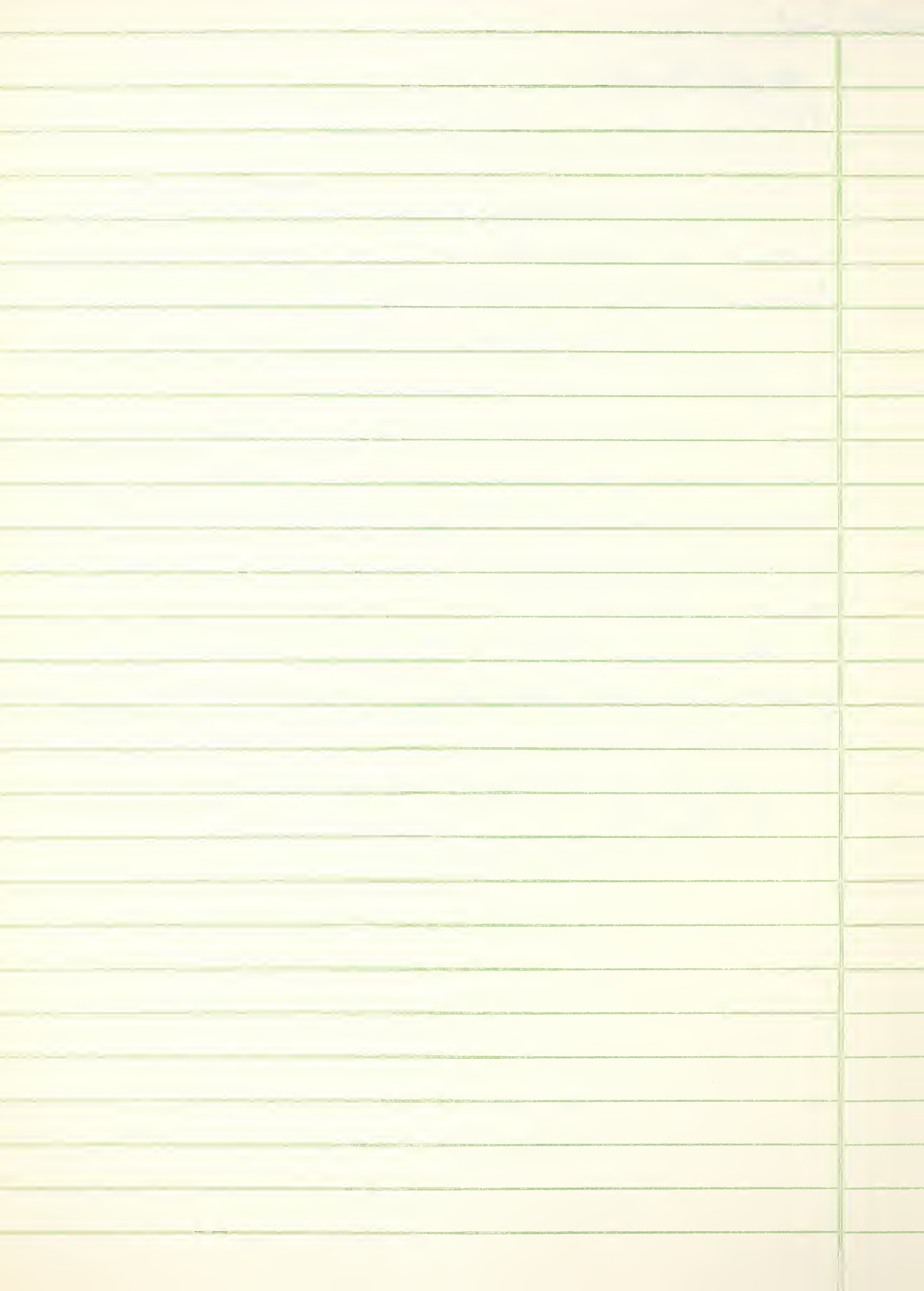
184 p.p.

A narrative of the ~~dialog~~ dialogue between the narrator and a mythical man called "Merch" - meaning rebellion - who is alleged to have caused the first World War, and of the visions inspired in the narrator by Merch, this book is an outline of the author's views of the political and economic reasons for war.

I consider it one of the most vivid and concise outlines I have read, and some of the visions make clear the author's viewpoints in wonderfully dramatic form. I imagine the book would be much sought after by collectors of both fantasy and economic theory, if the nature of its contents were better known.

His conclusion prophesies the defeat in 1950 of the U.S.A. because of that country's failure to be strong in a policy of "Self-Containment". He points out that a wealthy country may easily be helpless if it does not consistently strive for self-reliance and self-sufficiency.

This book belongs in my permanent library.



Garrett, Garet

Where the Money Grows; New York and London, 1911; 66p.

An observer's impressions of Wall Street and its natives.

There is humor as well as comment on the various types of character represented, and the author's conclusion appears to be that no one understands the operations of the market or can forecast better than a woman intuitively.



Garrett, William

The Man in the Mirror: A Biographical Reflection; London,  
John Lane The Bodley Head Limited (1931) 310p.

A stockbroker looking into his mirror during an electrical storm sees his reflection step out of the mirror. Identical with himself excepting that his clothes and physical organs are on opposite sides, the other makes a fortune for him on the stock market, usurps his position as husband and in a liason with a beautiful neighbor, dealing lightly and humorously instead of soberly and conscientiously, the clone complicates life until the stockbroker murders him and throws his body into a disused well on his own property, but police investigation discovers only the empty clothing and anything related to the clone disappears.

Fairly well worked out, even to the extent of puzzling the doctors who examine the stockbroker and the clone, this is a light and fairly humorous novel as contrated with the similar clone situation in Temple's The Four-Sided Triangle.

This is fantasy compared with Temple's science fiction.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Garrison, Omar V.

Howard Hughes in Las Vegas; New York, Lyle Stuart, Inc.  
(1970, Author); Illustrated 293p.

This book reminded me of many by Claude Houghton: the principal character does not appear, yet all the incidents are influenced by him.

It seems clear that the occupant of the stretcher used to transport a body from the train which stopped outside Las Vegas was Hughes, and that the incidents are factual, except possibly those attributed to narrators. This is anecdotal, rather than historical, and not biographical; yet seems to be well researched.

The illustrations are useful in connection with other books on Hughes which do not contain such pictures.







Gartner, Chloe

Anne Bonny; New York, William Morrow and Company, Inc.  
1977 (1977, author) 239p.

Daughter of a not too scrupulous planter, Anne married Bonny, a pimp and a poor excuse for a man, out of pique when she was disdained by a man she admired more.

She had already expressed her sexuality, and was by it attracted to several other men. She and Mary Read, who had disguised herself as Mark Read, wore men's clothing and were by their aggressive behavior able to perform better than the average man as pirates. Mary Read was attracted to a submissive man because he was a caring doctor; "Andrew Bonn" was simply aware of gentlemen and admired them, but accepted the advances of lesser men because of her impulsive sexuality.

My only earlier reading about Anne Bonny was from the novel Fanny by Erica Jong. Both writers take advantage of the fact that nothing is known of their character after she reached a certain age, by extrapolating their stories.

This novel is exceptionally well written, and very frank in depicting sexual activity of a determined woman.

As a pirate novel, this is above average, but certainly different from the romantic type of Sabatini.



The Halcyon Temple Press (The Temple of the People), Halcyon, California, 1929  
(35th Anniversary Edition), (Copyright, 1894) 377 p.p.

This book is the life, in the form of a novel, of one who, with his sister, was born to become an occultist of the highest degree attainable short of divinity or Mastership. The suggestion that all self must be subjected to permit service to humanity is carried to extremes; and the book may well serve as a text to popularise the teachings of occultism.

The supernatural is dealt with as mental rather than physical, but there are suggestions of visions referring to physical locales.



Gaskell, Jane

All Neat in Black Stockings; London, Sphere Books Limited (1968); (1966, Gaskell, Hodder & Stoughton) 143p.

A London window-washer, Ginger is always on the make, and shares his conquests with his pal Tom. He falls in love with a girl wearing black stockings, and pursues her with full intention of marrying her. At a party thrown by his artist brother-in-law in an apartment loaned to Ginger by a wealthy acquaintance who has been hospitalized for kidney trouble, Tom destroys Jill's virginity under the impression that Ginger has granted permission; Jill becomes promiscuous but refuses to see Ginger whom she blames for her predicament; Ginger takes a fling holiday, but returns to Jill when she writes him that she is pregnant and wants money for an abortion; he insists that she have the child, but she tries to commit suicide and have him blamed for her murder. When she recovers, she agrees to have the baby, marries Ginger, but he refuses to have sexual relations with her until after the baby is born. On his wedding day he takes Tom's latest girl friend to his room; Tom as best man notices, but can't protest. After the baby is born, Ginger's brother-in-law brings a present to Jill, and Ginger asks her to be pleasant to him. Saving a hundred pounds, Ginger intends to make a present of it to Jill, but meets some friends in a bar, gets drunk, and when his mother-in-law tries to help him upstairs to bed, he takes advantage of her, and learns that he can then rule the roost. After the baby comes, Jill agrees to have their own home (she had previously been dependant on her mother and wished to continue living with her); but soon Ginger is newly attracted by another girl, the story ending with him determined to make a new conquest.

This appears to be a realistic portrayal of working-class English people, sensationalized for commercial purposes, but probably basically a case-history. Told in the first person by Ginger, it portrays him as an amoral, but weak person with occasional flashes of decency, and is well done.





Gaskell, Jane

Atlan; London, Sphere Books Limited (1967), (1966, author) (Volume 2 of this edition) 286p.  
New York, St. Martin's Press (1977), (1965, author) (Volume 3 of this edition) 288p.

This volume continues Cija's adventures in Atlan after she is Zerd's Empress and during the period he is away. A girl child is borne and she is pregnant again. Her chief female antagonist is Zerd's first wife, a large blonde girl who travels in state and rescues Cija in a distressed state then later triumphs over her when the boy emperor, deposed by Zerd, proclaims her sexual infidelity and she loses her title of Empress.

A mad scientist who has created a homunculus endangers Cija but is killed during a fire in the palace. The sodden state of Atlan, leaderless while Zerd is away, is left a place of dangers encountered by Cija who is parted from her son, temporarily loses her daughter, rescues a bandit and finds herself again in the hands of the bandit leader Ael, who rejects her amorous advances in favor of untrammelled freedom to battle.

Although the hardback blurb refers to Jane Gaskell as "one of the greatest writers this genre has ever known", this book is poorly written, has no distinction even as an adventure in fantasy, and is notable only for the youth of its author at the time it was written.

New York, Daw Books, Inc. (#UE2049), (#632), (June, 1985), (1965, author) 334p.

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**FirstCity Trust**



Gaskell, Jane

Attic Summer; London, Sphere Books Ltd. (Gaskell, 1963)  
(Hodder & Stoughton, 1963), (Sphere, 1969) 158p.

Unity, a 16-year old girl, joins two others to live in an attic and work independently of her mother and father. First employed in a super-market, she becomes an usherette, living untidily in the hot attic rooms, becomes acquainted with Paul who lives in the same building with a girl and is an occasional writer on drugs. Also she is greatly attracted to Shredder, a lorry-driver who rides around on a motor-bike and is also a dust-bin cleaner. The frenetic sex-life of movie-goers is exposed to her attention, and the rowdyism of youths finally gets her involved with the police.

She learns that a chance sexual encounter with a 14-year old girl has made Shredder a potential father, and seeks refuge with Paul. After one night with Paul she decides to return to her parents.

This is probably a fair portrayal of a teen-agers early exposure to life away from home, but is not important in any other respect. Interesting, mainly as a view of adolescence.



Gaskell, Jane

The City; London, Sphere Books Limited (#37826), (1967)  
(1966, author) (3rd volume of paperback series) 191p.  
variant cover edition.  
New York, St. Martin's Press (1978), (1966, author)  
(4th volume, hardcover edition) 190p.

Trying to escape the slave-master who had purchased her Cija is entrapped in a brothel from which she is rescued by a boy who takes her to his family including adolescent sisters with whom she becomes friendly. They are threatened by invaders, one of whom is Cija's half-brother. Cija has lost her son, but is trying to protect her daughter, a speechless baby.

Various adventures lead her to penury and hardship, and a tribe of apes kidnap her and tries to fatten her for food which she avoids by starving herself. A battle between the chief ape and a rebel ends with the rebel taking her away. He is gentle with her and she finally allows him sexual favors, and when the book ends she is pregnant with his child.

In the City, her mother's domain, her father the head priest is living with an alligator, bejewelled and treated as his mistress. Her father is determined to kill her in order to assist his usurping power as ruler of the City, but is killed by the alligator, leaving her mother in charge. Her mother tells her that Zerd is coming, and Cija wonders about his reaction when he learns that she is pregnant with a beast's child.

While in the brothel, Cija hears of a prostitute who has died following intercourse for onlookers with a donkey; the series seems to indicate that the author is obsessed on the subject of irregular intercourse. Disclaiming passionate interest in sex, the heroine appears complaisant when circumstances force the issue, and even mentions enjoyment of rape on one occasion.

Poorly written, this series is merely an example of the kind of sexual adventurous heroine promoted in several series of modern novels.

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Ç A S E F É T E '

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gaskell, Mrs

Cousin Phillis; with a Preface by Thomas Seccombe; Illustrations by M. V. Wheelhouse; London, George Bell & Sons Ltd. (1916) 157p.

This pastoral tale, simply told in the first person by a 19 year old and lightly built engineer's assistant, relates how his superior was introduced by him to his cousin's family and how Phillis fell in love with him and was devastated when he went to Canada and married a French-Canadian girl who resembled her.

The life in a farmer-minister's household is portrayed in sympathetic terms, and the falling in love with a travelled sophisticate by an innocent girl and its tragic consequences is detailed with rare grace and humanity.

Although a Putnam edition of 727 pages is listed in Bleiler, it must contain at least as much material as the 325-page Everyman's Library edition, which is closely printed. Excepting for one instance of premonition before opening a letter, which is easily explained on a rational basis, there is no fantasy element in this story, so others in the larger volume must explain its listing by Bleiler.

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C A S T F E T E

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gaskell, Mrs.

Cousin Phillis & Other Tales; London, J. M. Dent & Sons  
Ltd/New York, E. P. Dutton & Co (Everyman's Library 325p.

Although an American edition under the first of the stories' title had more pages and consequently may contain some fantasy which led Bleiler to list it, the stories in this book have only slight incidents which might possibly be psychic but are not expressly so.

I read the title story in a nicely illustrated edition and made notes of it there. The other stories are homespun of the events in the lives of rural people under the class system which imposed behavior suitable to the various modes of early 19th century society.

The author seems to have been concerned with women who suffered from unrequited love, or the heroism of men who refused to accommodate their beliefs to accepted standards.

These tales are simply and well written, but add only to the reader's understanding of real life problems.

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**FirstCity Trust**



Gaskell, Jane

The Dragon; New York, St. Martin's Press (1977), (1963, author) 206p.

This American hardcover does complete the first book of The Atlan Saga published in England as The Serpent. In the Sphere paperback it comprises pages 292-480.

Cija and her half-brother flee Zerd, but she returns to him and marries him when he becomes the conqueror of Atlan.

Her adventures carry on the barbarian tradition of the earlier part of the book, but there is little story apart from the incidents. She discovers that she has had an incestuous relationship with her half-brother, but he insists that this merely adds to its interest for him.

Fantastic adventure with barbaric trappings seems to summarize the value of this story.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gaskell, Jane

King's Daughter; London, Arrow Books Ltd., (1969), (1958,  
Hutchinson & Company (Publishers) Ltd. 256p.

Written when she was 15 years old, this novel is slightly more mature than her first, but I am reasonably sure that whole sequences were deleted because of gaps in the narrative, scenes which were unrelated to previous events. Particularly at the close of the book it was evident that Gaskell had no idea how to end it.

The story is the usual rebellion of a young 17 year old princell determined to escape her environment and encountering the adventures inevitable to a defenseless and beautiful girl.

With many men seeking her favors or her presence as a virgin priestess in a temple, and herself uncertain of the attractions of the competing males, this is a fair portrayal of the author's own ambivalence, her attraction to love and also to the luxurious life of the courtesan.

An achievement for a 15 year old girl, this novel holds little of value for mature readers.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gaskell, Jane

The Serpent; London, Sphere Books Limited (#37834),  
(1967), (1966, author); Bibliography 480p.  
New York, St. Martin's Press (1977), (1963, author),  
316p.

The American hardcover edition comprises only the first 291 pages of the british paperback edition, which is concluded in the American hardcover edition entitled The Dragon.

This book was written while the author was a teenager and forecast a literary career. It has the crudities of a beginning writer, but is a good example of feminist fantasy.

Told in the first person by a 17-year-old girl who has accepted the mission to assassinate a serpent-skinned general who is an enemy of her mother and her country, the story tells of her attempts to do so, of how a friend of her childhood falls ill and is nursed by her and whom she finds physically attractive but quarrelsome. She rides a large bird, but is dismayed to find that the bird exercises an influence over her psychologically and tries to avoid it.

Raped by a governor and living in a fairly primitive society where the men control women and use them brutally, a description of orgies and customs, treks of slaves or hostages through desert country, and disguise to avoid punishment or discovery, constitute the narrative interest.

I have read some non-fantasy novels by this writer and will likely finish reading this Atlan Saga which is now in 5 volumes from the American publisher.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gaskell, Jane

Some Summer Lands; New York, St. Martin's Press (1977,  
Gaskell) 352p.

This final volume in the Atlan Saga is told in the first person by Seka, the voiceless daughter of Cija and Zerd. The girl is precocious and perspicacious, observing with the understanding of an adult the conversations and actions of the characters and their motives.

Seka acts protectively towards her small mother, who is passively involved with her half-brother, guided by the wisdom and protectiveness of the bandit leader and others, and finally united with Zerd whom Seka is happy to accept as her father.

The conclusion of the book is mystical and allegorical in contrast with the action and down-to-earthiness of the earlier books and the early part of this book. Atlan suffers earthquake and flooding and is destroyed in the end, the author suggesting that this is brought about, at least in part, by the actions and characters of the book.

I found this volume even more difficult to read than the earlier books. The author appears fascinated by miscegenation and bestiality, and treats the sexual activities as inevitable functional drives and desires, almost independent of love and respect, and in some cases as cruelty and oppression.

Drastic revision and clarification of this volume would make it a suitable ending of the saga, but I found it a big disappointment.

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**FirstCity Trust**



Gaskell, Jane

Strange Evil; London, Hutchinson, (1957)  
London, Arrow Books Ltd. (1969) (#143)

256p.  
254p.

Written when she was 14 years old, this fantasy reveals the immaturity of fairies, satyrs, and an alien world imagined well enough but not clearly depicted of a promising writer whose later work fulfilled that promise.

Asked to accept as guest her girl cousin who is half alien, Judith becomes fond of her and enamored of her lover whom she is later to realize is selfish and merely using his lady friends. She follows them back to their world whose exterior citizens are at war with interior dwellers of a mountain, witnesses the battles and falls in love with an alien herself, forsaking England.

I found the story rather tedious and purposeless, though I am impressed by the accomplishment by such youth.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gaskell, Jane

A Sweet Sweet Summer; London, Hodder and Stoughton,  
(1969, author) 223p.  
London, Sphere Books Ltd., (1971) 204p.

Aliens hovering over England in space ships cut off the nation from the rest of the world and send messages by small globes to the inhabitants. Social services are disrupted, government is paralyzed, mob rule and gang warfare are rife, and might is right.

The narrator is a teen-age ponce trying to run a part brothel, part roominghouse, when a gang invades and takes it over despite the protests of the owner who is the ponce's father. A cousin from the docks, sexually innocent but very tough and efficient, becomes the target of the attentions of one of the leaders of the gang, whose molestation by his mother has left him with a twisted adoration of her, but who is normally an enemy of and contemptuous of women, treating them with disdain as sexual objects. This man is admired by the ponce who is jealous of his cousin and seeks occasions to be rid of her or to deride her.

The action is confined to a few days during which the cousin and a former colleague seek to escape the gang, and are accompanied by the ponce and the gang leader after the death of the ponce's father and his discovery of his mother and sister, whom he had believed to be dead, during the escape trial.

The book ends when the aliens depart, having decided this planet is too filthy and corrupt to be desirable.

An unwholesome depiction of the lives of socially deprived but desperate people under alien rule, this may portend a future of our world.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gates, MacBurney

The Black Pirate; Based upon the story written for the Screen by Elton Thomas and retold in short story form by Lotta Woods; Colored Illustrations of scenes from the great Douglas Fairbanks photoplay; New York, Grosset & Dunlap (1926, Publishers) 220p.

This is a surprisingly well written adventure story of piracy in the Caribbean, told in the first person by the Duke of Arnaldo, whose father dies following a pirate attack and who vows to avenge him and protect a Spanish princess for whom he carries a grant signed by the King of Spain.

I saw the movie, but could remember of it only the scene where Arnaldo and the governor's men swim underwater to the pirates' captive galleon and capture it. Arnaldo, the Black Pirate, is an appealing and romantic character, capable and high-minded, and the story, although improbable and having an incident of clairvoyance or second sight not essential to the story, is interesting.



Gauld, Alan

The Founders of Psychical Research; London, Routledge & Kegan Paul, (1968, author); Appendices; Index 387p.

This is not intended for popular reading, but for serious students of parapsychology and particularly newer members of the SPR who might be unaware of the personalities and achievements of the pioneer researchers.

Gauld had access to the SPR archives and to many biographies and other references not available to me. His exhaustive research and annotated views make this book an essential reference for my future consideration of the reports, particularly his survey of Myers' subliminal consciousness.

He points out the mistakes of several principal skeptics and although he admits that scientific proof of parapsychological phenomena is still lacking, the reality of most phenomena has been verified to the extent that further investigation is warranted.

Gauld is astounded at the quantity and quality of the work in the first twenty years of the SPR's existence. This is summed up in Myers' Human Personality, the two volumes of which I have used as a reference to case studies for fifty years, although I have not read the complete work.

Gauld's views of the phenomena are cautious and balanced; his scholarship is thorough and can be trusted.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
August 30, 1997

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**FirstCity Trust**



Gautier, Theophile (Translated by Lafcadio Hearn)

One of Cleopatra's Nights; New York, Padell Book Company, no date 28p.

(Has pictorial cardboard cover, reprints Swinburne's Memorial verses and is typeset in double columns, but does not give the translation credit.)

another copy, no publisher, date or place shown, is set in single column type, acknowledges the volume from which the story is excerpted, and the publisher acknowledges that the printing is by permission of Coward-McCann, Inc. It has 32 pages, including the title page. Its size is slightly larger than that described above.

I read this story from the hardcover published by Brentano. It is historical fiction, rather than fantasy, and is more interesting as an example of Gautier's word-wizardry and Hearn's translation expertise than as a story. A young Egyptian falls madly in love with Cleopatra, swims to her boat, sends by arrow a message "I love you", swims back to shore, then returns, is captured, Cleopatra entertains him for one night, then serves him poison and he dies before Mark Antony returns from a trip and finds her with the corpse which Cleopatra says she used to try the effects of a poison she intended to use herself if she were taken by Augustus.

These pamphlets are probably rare collector's items, but aside from possible factors relating to their reprinting in this form, are of no importance if one possesses the hardcover volume.

HOME STREET



CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

240 HOME STREET • WINNIPEG, MANITOBA R3G 1X3 • (204) 783-5881

May 30, 1982

Dear Home Street Youth:

Just a note to let you know of the fun and exciting youth activities coming your way this Summer.

First - Youth Campout, July 1-4 at

Spruce Woods Provincial Park

A registration form is enclosed - note its due date: June 20. This is especially for you - the youth of Home Street Church - and your friends. We'll leave the church at 8:30 AM, July 1.


Second - Encounter '82, August 8-15 at

Bird's Hill Provincial Park

This is the Big One! Youth from all across Canada will be joining us for a terrific week. Camp leader will be Steve Mabry from Sacramento, California. If you attended the Anaheim Assembly last year, you may remember him as one of the youth leaders - the one with the guitar. Enclosed is further information on Encounter and an Encounter Registration form. Note its due date: June 30.

Again this year you have something great to work for. Bottles? Car washes? Whatever; it's time to begin. I'll be in touch.

In His Service,

  
Ray E. Trotter

One of Cleopatra's Nights and Other Fantastic Romances  
Ubtriduction by Ernest Boyd; New York, Brentano's; (1927,  
1899, Brentano's Inc.; 1899 Worthington Co.); Portrait of  
Gautier; 388p.

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All, excepting (2) which I had previously read at least three times, I read from this volume. Apparently, only (1), (2), and (4) are reprinted in my omnibus volume of Gautier's Works published by Black; therefore this volume, with its additional matter should be retained for reference.

See my notes under the pamphlet reprint of the title story for a summary.

(3) is a story reminiscent of An Adventure, and likely a prototype of Irwin's And Still She ~~Wished~~ for Company. It propounds the idea of eternal lasting static universe, and suggests the power of intense concentration to propel one into the existence of another time frame. I was reminded also of De Camp's Lest Darkness Fall.

(4) is a somewhat humorous ghost story, and may have inspired Merritt's Three Lines of Old French.

(5) is borderline as fantasy, since it may have been a dream, and suggests a picture or tapestry coming to life.

(6) is another of Gautier's long descriptions of the beauty of a woman. Wife of Candaules, modest, his admiration of her inspires him to wish to share her charms with a friend who guards him; knowing that her husband has betrayed her modesty Nyssia forces the guard to kill her husband so that only one man, the guard who becomes her future husband, will know her beauty.

Apart from the fantasies of which (3) deserves to be better known, the stories are more important for their manner than their matter.

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May 30, 1982

Dear Home Street Youth:

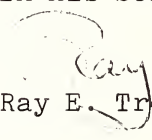
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begin. I'll be in touch.

In His Service,

  
Ray E. Trotter

Copied from the back of the dust jacket for Spawn of the Vortex:

Born in Leeds, Yorkshire, England, a graduate of the Hanson High School of Bradford, England, Henry K. Gayle studied literature at the Regent Institute in London.

A member of The Royal Air Force (1939 to 1945), he served actively in England and the Far East, especially in India and Burma, where for three years he was attached to the first British Repair and Salvage Unit whose territory encompassed the entire Burmese frontier from the jungles of Arakan to Kohima in Northern Assam.

He published various short articles in the South East Asia Command Monthly, and is currently engaged on another project which will cover his personal experiences during World War II in the Asian South East.

A man with a decided preference for the outdoors, he counts hunting, fishing and photography among his favorite interests.

Now a resident of Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, Henry K. Gayle is employed as an Inspector of Chemicals for the National Department of Defence of Canada.





Gayle, Henry K.

Spawn of the Vortex; New York, Comet Press Books (1957)  
(copyright, Harold Gayle) 138p.

The copyright makes me wonder if this book was published as a memorial to the author. In any event, it appears to be an amateur effort.

An underwater atomic bomb is set off, which causes the ocean to pour down a crater opened by the blast, engulfing ships and men over a huge radius from the explosion. There are no survivors, though characters on one of the ships and on an aircraft are used as temporary characters.

Following the disaster, 200-foot mechanicals appear, wading through the ocean to invade both China and America. San Francisco, then other towns and Los Angeles are devastated, the monsters (monotonously termed devilish and hellish) appearing invulnerable to any weapons brought against them by the combined armed forces of the U. S. A. They trample and mangle men and property, but apparently make no attempt to communicate with mankind.

Officials are brought into the story with a minimum of characterization and action, and ultimately a Russian scientist deduces that they (the monster mechanicals) can be attacked successfully only by the application of frigid temperatures. He has invented a freezing gas, and obtaining a supply of this from Russia, looses it on the mechanicals and they ~~disintegrate~~ disintegrate.

Not only is the story poorly written, but the characters do not act as they should considering the positions of authority they occupy. Even the dialogue is childish. This is a sort of amateurish copying of the invasion story patterned after Wells's The War of the Worlds.

It does not have any permanent value or interest.





Gaze, Harry

Emmet Fox: The Man and His Work; New York, Harper & Brothers (1952, Publishers); Notes 150p.

For 20 years minister of the Church of the Healing Christ, Fox taught New Thought on the basis of study from Quimby to J. Dimsdale Stocker whose book was influential in convincing him.

Having himself healing power even as a child, he used it throughout his ministry, insisting on the power of prayer and right thinking. His method was to banish worry over the problems of life and get the sufferer to think instead of God and to forgive anyone who might be blamed for the problems causing worry and illness.

The final chapters are of most interest to me, since they deal with the background of Fox's philosophy and his ability to heal. He wrote pamphlets on the afterlife and on reincarnation, and was apparently convinced that he would return to lead other lives in the future, at about intervals of 500 years.

Sufficient of his teaching is quoted to make it likely that I would not gain much by reading his books, but it is probable that I will sample him as I come across them in my collection.



# 1982 ALL-CANADA CONVENTION

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

## REGISTRATION FORM EXPLANATION

This year there is a Women's Retreat prior to the Convention itself. The Mennonite Brethren Bible College is available Tuesday night for those wishing to arrive early for this event.

A. Registration ... We hope you will find this self explanatory. Please note separate registration for Encounter Groups. There is no Convention registration fee for children under eleven years. (See Day Care).

B. Accommodation... The Mennonite Brethren Bible College is passing along the \$8.00 per person bedding charge, in which they receive no profit. This bedding is for the entire time, regardless of how long you stay.

Children twelve years and under who stay with adults, will be provided with a mattress at one half the \$4.50 adult price... i.e. \$2.25 per night and their linen is \$8.00

C. Meals... For catering purposes, the Mennonite Brethren Bible College must have an accurate count in advance of the Convention.

You will note there is no supper being served on Saturday at the Convention site. The cafeteria will be closed on Sunday morning. Home Street church will be providing a light complimentary lunch following the Sunday morning worship service.

For children under twelve, all meals are half adult price, with exception of those three years and under, whose meals are free.

The C.C.W.F. luncheon has been combined with the C.C.M.F. luncheon because of our special speaker, Dr. Jean Woolfolk.

D. Child Care.... The cost of \$4.00 per day includes two snacks and a noon meal, and the child's care after breakfast until 5.00 p.m.

Gebauer, Phyllis

The Pagan Blessing; New York, The Viking Press (1979,  
Author) 244p.

A fisherman finds in a cave two golden images of lovers made so they may join amorously. He and his wife renew their ardor, and an adopted daughter and their son who comes to visit them discover the statuettes, which influence them also and the villagers as the word spreads.

Seeking at first to sell the images, the fisherman comes to realize that they enhance the life of the villagers and may become a beneficial attraction to tourists from all over the world. While seeking a purchaser, he attracts the attention of smugglers, the mayor, a nobleman, and other people who seek to profit from the images. Finally declining to sell, the fisherman succeeds in getting the others to agree with him to benefit the entire village by enshrining the images and attracting visitors.

The magical power of the images is the only fantasy element in this light novel, but it is sufficient to qualify the story as in the fantasy field. It is of no importance apart from entertaining reading.



Geis, Richard E.

Bedroom Blacklist; North Hollywood, California, Brandon House (#1010), (1966, Publishers) 190p.

The author publishes a very good science fiction review magazine, and is a good writer. I had heard or read that he wrote pornographic material, and this book is ostensibly in that category.

However, it is published under his own name, which is an indication of his sincerity. It is well written; it deals with a sociological problem: the rights of the individual, versus the rights of his employers, to privacy in personal matters, particularly sexual practices.

Jim Spencer is a junior executive in a billion-dollar company, and is required to take a polygraph test under the direction of a psychologist. Because of a traumatic experience involving his father and a prostitute, Jim is impotent, but is fortunate to have fallen in love with and marry a girl also warped sexually from a rape experience when she was twelve years old, and whose treatment by three psychiatrists following the rape has failed to remove her fear and loathing of sexual intercourse. They satisfy each other orally, but have never consummated the marriage.

His work performance is superior, and his employers do not wish to discharge him, but the executive floor insist that no deviance be acceptable in their employees. When the rumors of Jim's deviance create an impossible psychological situation among his fellow employees, Jim finally resigns his job. His employers have promised to pay for the services of a psychiatrist, but his wife's experience with them makes her refuse to cooperate or even to try normal intercourse; the strain of his unemployment and blacklisting drives her and him to experiment with homosexuals, each discovering no attraction, and wishing to resume the loving relationship they had previously enjoyed.

Having their deviance approved by an authoritative psychiatrist, Jim decides to advertise for a job with a firm who are willing to hire a man on the basis of his job ability and without personal prejudice or bias. He is hired at once at an advance on his former salary by a man who is efficient and wants only a capable employee. His wife's parents, to whose home she has fled, understand the situation clearly, and wish to reconcile the marriage; and Jim's rehabilitation and his explanation of the psychiatrist's approval bring the lovers together again.

This book is a strong plea for the right of the individual to live independently of the mores of society. Possibly Geis believed that no regular publisher would grant him the freedom to express himself, and resorted to the "pornographic" genre to publicize his views. Erotic and salacious details cater to the publisher's readership, but this book deals with a real problem and in a courageous and far from sensational manner. I am impressed favorably, despite the category of publication.



Deuteronomio 6: 1-9

Hebreo 7: 23-28

Marcos 12: 28-34

Ika-30 ng Oktubre, 1988

### "HINDI KA NALALAYO SA KAHARIAN"

Ang mga talatang narinig natin mula sa aklat ng Deuteronomio ngayong umaga ay itinuturing ng ating mga magulang sa pananampalataya, ang mga Hudyo, na siyang pinakamahalagang mga salita sa Kasulatan. Pinagtibay ito ni Hesus na ito nga ang pinakamahalagang kautusan nang sinalita niya ang mga ito sa binasang ebanghelyo ayon kay apostol Marcos. Ang mga salita bang ito ay nadarama ninyo na siyang pinakamahalaga sa inyong buhay ngayon? O ang mga ito ay pawang mga salita lamang?

Mahalagang punahin na nasa konteksto ng pamilya natagpuan ang mga kautusang ito: "Ngayon, ito ang kautusan...na matakot kayo sa inyong Panginoong Diyos, kayo ang ang inyong mga anak, at ang mga anak ng inyong mga anak..." (Deut. 6:1-2) Ang mga salitang ito na ipinangusap ng Diyos sa araw na iyon ay hindi lamang mga salitang maaaring magamit sa iisang panahon lamang. Ito ang mga salitang ang kahalagahan ay panghabang panahon. Subalit higit na mahalaga kaysa rito, ito ay mga salitang ibinigay sa mga tao bilang isang pagtitiwala at tungkulin. Ang pagtitiwala ay ang pag-iingat nila dito nang buo at bilang buhay na bahagi ng kanilang mga buhay at ng buhay ng kanilang mga anak at mga anak ng kanilang mga anak. Apat na libong taon ang nakalipas, nasa atin pa rin ang mga salitang ito, at ang mga salitang ito pa rin ang pinakapangunang buto (backbone) na tinuturing ng lahat ng mga tao ng pananampalataya na pinakamahalaga.

Kaya may mga tao, ang ating mga ninuno sa pananampalataya, na ginanap ang kanilang mga tungkulin at tinugon nang may pag-ibig ang pagpasa ng pinakamahalagang turo mula sa salitang saling henerasyon. Ang katanungang dumarating sa atin ngayon ay "Gagawin ba natin ang ating bahagi sa pag-iingat ng mga salitang ito bilang buhay na bahagi para sa ating mga anak at kanilang mga anak?"

Pakinggan nating muli ang mahahalagang mga salitang ito: "Dinggin, o Israel: Ang Panginoon mong Diyos ay iisang Panginoon; at mamahalin mo ang iyong Panginoon nang iyong buong puso, at nang iyong buong kaluluwa, at nang iyong buong lakas." Tinaguriang "Shema" ang mga salitang ito ng mga taong may pananampalatayang Hebreo. at wala ni isang taong Hudyo na naturuan sa sinagoga, kahit pa man maikling panahon lamang, ang sa pagkarinig ng mga salitang ito: "Dinggin, o Israel..." ay hindi makakatapos ng mga nalalabi pang salita. Sa panahon ng paghihirap, at kahit noong panahon ng 'holocaust', ang mga salitang ito ang naging bato kung saan ang pananampalatayang Hudyo ay nakatagal o nakapagtiis, kahit pa sa harapan ng kamatayan at hindi mailalarawang kahirapan. Tayo kaya sa ngayon ay mayroon ding kakayahan upang matagpuan sa mga salitang ito ang panggagalingan ng ating kalakasan at kapangyarihan? Alalahanin kung gaano kabilis dumating

Geis, Richard E.

Eye at the Window; North Hollywood, California, Brandon House (#1119); (1967, Publishers) 190p.

A traumatic experience at the age of six makes Bob Austin afraid of women and sex with them. He becomes a Peeping Tom, aware of impotence and afraid of sex with women, but is constantly tense with desire and admiration for beautiful girls.

Although a talented artist, his lack of confidence fits him only for work in a clothing store's stockroom. Here he meets a sexually liberated girl who falls in love with him. Fearing failure as a man, he repulses her, but is constantly attracted, resorting to his perversion to release the tensions created by his desire for her.

Finally fired for peeping into women's dressingrooms, he despairs of finding work, and fears that he may have to return to the home of his dominating mother and his stepfather. His loving girl Yvonne, however, despite his exposure at work, confesses her own "perverted" sex longings and belittles his practices as simply a part of growing up. Initiating him gradually to build his confidence, she makes him capable, he obtains a job as a commercial artist, and they plan to marry.

Although there are many distasteful passages in this novel, the author deals with a human problem and tries to show the power of love in solving such problems. No one is beyond redemption or rehabilitation.

Like the only other novel I have read by Geis, this is a plea for sexual freedom.

ay nangungusap sa ibang tao na may kakaibang pananampalataya. Subalit nangangahulugan ito na hanggat hindi tayo handang pakinggan ang mga mabubuting puntos na mayroon ang iba at sasabihin ang iba, walang dahilan kung bakit sila ay mapapahinuhod na makinig sa ating mga sasabihin tungkol sa buhay at pananampalataya. Naniniwala ako na ang mga tao ay nakukumberteng pareho ng mga taong handang makinig, at mga taong handang magsalita sa kanila, o marahil ay higit pa iyong mga handang makinig. Kung pakikinggan natin ang sasabihin nila, sila man ay magkakagustong makapakinig na maaari nating ihandog sa kanila. At kapag nagsimula na tayong magsalita, umaasa ako na ang mga salita sa Shema, at pinakadakilang kautusan ang mamumutawi sa ating mga labi. Alam ba natin ang mga salitang iyon? Itinuturo ba natin ito sa ating mga anak? Nabubuhay ba tayo ayon sa mga salitang iyon?

Dalangin ko na tunay ngang mamahalin natin ang Diyos nang buong puso natin, at ang ating mga kapitbahay na tulad ng ating mga sarili.

AMEN.

REB. RAYMOND A. CUTHBERT  
HOME STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Geley, Gustave

From the Unconscious to the Conscious; translated from the French by S. De Brath, M.I.C.E.; with a Foreword by J. D. Beresford; New York & London, Harper & Brothers; Illustrated 328p.

Volume 34 for 1924 of the SPR Proceedings contains Lodge's obituary appreciation of Geley, plus his review of Crookes's work. Richet's textbook indicates that Geley worked to investigate mediums with him. Yet there are few references in popular books to Geley's contributions to survival literature.

Geley questions Darwin, admits evolution, but insists that it begins with the unconscious. He forecasts that as the conscious becomes more aware of the powers of the unconscious, they will merge.

The illustrations are of the development of a picture of a woman's head as it developed from small to large in ectoplasm.

Based on science and philosophy, Geley's hypothesis is accepted by Beresford who forecast that in fifty years it would be acknowledged generally. This has not happened, but respectability has attended research into psychic phenomena.

This book should be retained for reference. I did not understand many of the technicalities, but the trend is clear.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
August 29, 2000

Note: Although undated, the preface shows 1920.



CUSTOMER  
CENTRE

MANITOBA

Geller, Uri, and Playfair, Guy Lyon

The Geller Effect; London, Jonathan Cape (1986, authors)  
Illustrated; Index 288p.

Parts 1 & 3 of this book were written by Playfair; Uri from page 25 to 187. For ten years Uri was busy making use of his faculties to become a millionaire and establish business and social success and being tested by scientists. Like other psychics he is convinced that his powers must be used only for good and he turns down any unethical propositions. He encourages the development of powers similar to his which he believes are the natural part of human personality. His autobiography is very convincing.

Playfair witnessed many phenomena during his long friendship with Uri. His experience with poltergeist occurrences made him a cautious observer, but he discovered no trickery and he considers Uri a genuine psychic with powers superior even to D. D. Home. This book provides a balanced view of Geller.

(I commented that Playfair was more fortunate than Carrington in witnessing poltergeist phenomena. I wonder if Playfair is, like many hypnotists, so convinced of their reality that he helps psychics produce phenomena. Belief is important; an optimistic frame of mind helps greatly to produce positive effects.

Playfair doubts spiritism, especially in view of the many fraudulent confessions made by fake mediums. However, I find it difficult to understand why so many people with superior minds and accomplishments became spiritualists and maintained their faith over many years. Our most famous local investigator of psychic phenomena was Dr. T. Glen Hamilton and a relative of his worked with me in the insurance business and told me that his family accepted communication as a simple part of living. He admitted, however, that his famous ancestor neglected his medical profession because of his dedication to psychical research.

My high respect for Sir Oliver Lodge, Sir William Barrett, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~, Sir A. Conan Doyle, Richard Hodgson, Hyslop, Wallace and countless others who commenced mainly as skeptics became convinced of human survival makes me lean towards Myers who felt that such belief made life meaningful. Lack of experience means that I rely on their testimony, but I have relied on books for almost everything I believe. I do not accept Spiritualism as a religion, but can it be a living experience? CDC)

Chester D. Cuthbert  
August 29, 2002.

Note: I have read both of Geller's books and others concerning him, and have probably made notes, but these are unimportant by comparison with this book.



# CUSTOMER CENTRE

MANITOBA

Geller, Uri

My Story; New York, Praeger Publishers (1975, Geller)  
Illustrated 282p.  
New York, Warner Books (#89025), (April, 1976); Illus-  
trated; Index; Afterword 287p.

The illustrations in the paperback are different a bit from those in the first edition, and the index is helpful, so the paperback should be retained for reference.

I was quite favorably impressed by Geller's ordinary style and his disclaiming any special powers, acting merely as a medium through whom phenomena happen. Predisposed as I am to accepting as real the existence of psychic energy, his phenomena seem merely an updating of those which have been described of other mediums.

Geller is probably the most important physical medium since Palladino, but whether his telepathic powers can be confirmed by scientific examination remains to be seen.



Geller, Uri

Pampini; New York, World Authors Ltd. (1980, Geller)  
228p.

The title refers to an airship, very few of which have survived, and one of which lands in Switzerland with an alien from a far planet who learns English and is called Shawn. He is irresistible to women, has psychic powers, is enlisted to display these to crowds and is asked to become a secret agent for the Soviets.

Many of the characters are introduced merely for sensational purposes and have no relevance to the story, which is chaotic and plotless. I suspect that Uri was not succeeding with his television programs and resorted to using his name to promote this novel. Randi says that John Fuller wrote (or ghostwrote) Uri's autobiography, but I doubt that Fuller wrote this book.

This qualifies as fantasy or science fiction, but is of no value.





Gelman, Rita Golden

E S P: Stories of Strange Happenings; cover by Stephen Shirak; interiors by Ted Hanke; New York, etc., Scholastic Book Services (1981, Gelman Associates) 95p.

This book retells classic instances of psychic phenomena, many of which I read in the original sources. Its only value is as an introduction for children to parapsychology.

The sources are not disclosed, but this book is a fair indication of how to summarize simply factual and detailed cases.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
March 5, 2001



CUSTOMER  
CENTRE

MANITOBA

George, Stephen R.

-Beasts; New York, Kensington Publishing Corp.; Zebra Books (#2682X), (1989, author) 350p.

Michael Smith and Sondra his companion suffer a virus disease which influences them to become like bloodthirsty beasts, their bodies distorted into strong ravenous wolf-like beings with swift reflexes endowing them with power and lust for blood and sex.

Smith, with the help of a doctor friend in Chicago, tries to inhibit or cure the virus, and goes back to his home town of New York, Minnesota. His parents have died some years previously and he has not kept in touch with his old friends, so is welcomed with reservations. He quickly falls in love with the village librarian or bookstore operator, Elizabeth, and likes her nearly eleven year old son, a precocious boy who senses immediately the sexual attraction between his mother and Smith.

Shortly after Smith's arrival, two local people are found dead of knife incisions and beast-like torn flesh wounds, with substantial loss of blood in each case. The local police, Brisk and his assistant Gally who have a good, and occasionally intimate, relationship, investigate, and Smith is considered a prime suspect as little crime has been experienced in ten years. Smith knows that Sondra has followed him and is guilty of the murders, so tells Brisk his story, but not until Brisk has met Sondra and succumbed to her wiles, secreting his knowledge of Sondra from Gally and Smith.

Because a trail of 150 known similar murders, the F.B.I. agents are called in, and the inevitable climax leaves Smith as the only person with strength endowed by the virus capable of contending with Sondra. He discontinues the medicine his doctor has prescribed, and searches her out, only to find that she has abducted Elizabeth and her son. The chase results in Sondra's death and Smith recovering in hospital.

Although probably better-written than Steve's first novel, this had less appeal for me. Smith's allowing himself to enter a loving relationship with Elizabeth knowing his disease and knowing also that the murderous Sondra was pursuing him overcame what sympathy I could feel for his plight. Elizabeth's loneliness and need for male companionship should not have been so quickly satisfied and consummated, despite her son's sophistication and agreement with her choice. Brisk's attraction to Gally and Elizabeth before becoming enthralled by Sondra indicated a womanizing weakness at variance with his professional competence and rectitude.



George, Stephen R.

## Beasts

Typographical, grammatical and word-usage comments.

- P. 37: the word "her" is omitted ahead of "tongue".  
P. 42: Should be a question mark after "Bob".  
P. 66: "it's" s.b. its.  
P. 82: "back woods" s.b. "backwoods".  
P. 93: "there" s.b. "they're"  
P.100: (near bottom): "this" s.b. "his"  
P.107: I do not know the expression "manly hurtin' songs"  
P.111: (near bottom): "than him" s.b. "than he".  
P.116: "reticent" s.b. "reluctant".  
P.117: "dusky" s.b. "musky".  
P.121: "topped" s.b. "popped". Although "popped" has been used again too soon.  
P.124: it was "she", not "her".  
P.136: Stone had "no" time to think, not "to" time.  
P.154: "plum" not "plumb".  
P.167: "dusky" does not refer to taste, and should not be used.  
P.168: I doubt that the word "healthy" is correctly used.  
P.175: "disturbinh" s.b. "disturbing".  
P.178: (last line): "into" s.b. "in to".  
P.180: "non-committally" s.b. "non-committally".  
P.182: "cooly" s.b. "coolly".  
P.188: "patterened" s.b. "patterned".  
P.211: "Jehovah's" not "Jehova's".  
P.215: Although in this case it is debatable, I would be inclined to use the word "reluctant" rather than "reticent".  
P.222: "confrim" s.b. "confirm".  
P.225: "down at this hands" s.b. "down at his hands".  
P.236: "Get the hell" should be followed by the word "out".  
P.242: "nipples" s.b. "nipple".  
P.259: (debatable): "strived" s.b. "strove"?  
P.263: "2:30 P.M."; P.265: "2:35 P.M."?  
P.291: "tentacals" s.b. "tentacles".  
P.293: there should be no quotation mark after "Damn it!"  
P.340: "her's" s.b. "hers".  
P.341: "relfex" s.b. "reflex".  
"that they are doomed" s.b. "that he is doomed".  
P.343: "qaushed" s.b. "quashed"  
P.347: "rain of bullets" is not in agreement with the facts previously narrated. The bullets were pumped one by one.

Note: Although every writer's style is marred to some extent by overusage of certain words, Steve should try to avoid using "chuckled", eyes "locked", "carefully" in identical form by consulting his thesaurus for synonyms. See above, my overusage of the word "although".





George, Stephen R.

Bloody Valentine; New York, Kensington Publishing Corp.;  
(Zebra Books #4433), (1993, author) 413p.

Steve's quotation from Mrs. Marden by Robert Hichens, a book he had obtained from me, was sufficient to make me aware of the theme, but I was surprised to find that his plot was based on the experiment detailed in Conjuring Up Philip: An Adventure in Psychokinesis by Iris M. Owen (with Margaret Sparrow). Steve has his character a sadistic killer rather than the romantic lover of the Owen book.

The killer murders two little girls, an old lady, and the University professor who conducted the experiment with the aid of his students. After ten years they are drawn to re-visit the town of the experiment, one of them a law officer who has fathered a girl unknowingly, another the mother of the girl whom the killer seeks to possess to embody himself.

An FBI agent who instituted the experiment had been released as unsuited for his duties, and has disappeared. Steve cleverly builds up the possibility that the murders were committed by him rather than by the fictional killer, but throughout the story he acknowledges the reality of the psychic abilities of his circle of sitters involved in the experiment, and that the FBI man shared such abilities.

The story closes with the killing of the ex-FBI man, leaving open to the reader whether this relatively rationalistic explanation of the killings, or possession of the FBI man by the fictional character, is the answer. The lovers and their daughter are united to satisfy the happy conclusion.

This is the best-written and most interesting of Steve's novels that I have read. His style of narration and command of dramatics have improved greatly, his characters are more acceptable and empathetic.

My having read the two books mentioned in the opening paragraph of these notes probably increased my interest in Steve's treatment of the theme, but I am reasonably sure that his readers will agree with me in thinking this is his best to date.

just a bit more dynamic

now is a lovely time for the  
melody. a little more in  
place keep the flow around.  
Piano 17 very different in that place.

Good balance of parts you could  
allow yourself a bit more  
energy use of music.

lovely good.

Steve Jones  
ADJUDICATOR

ADJUDICATOR

Well done a nice light approach.



George, Stephen R.

Brain Child; New York, Kensington Publishing Corp.;  
Zebra Books (#2578), (1989, author) 352p.

Phyllis Reynolds has divorced her husband because he abused their daughter sexually, is attracted to Paul, who works with her on MPLA Magazine, but is dismayed when he complains after his sexual advances are rejected following their being witnessed by the eight-year-old daughter who is disturbed. She allows her daughter Celia to be taken to a clinic where experiments are being conducted on children by doctors subsidized by the American Army.

Taking time off from work Phyllis accompanies her daughter to the clinic and is attracted immediately to a young doctor who has been on staff for only six months. Celia is friendly with a young boy David who has an imaginary playmate; only as the story advances is it made clear that this playmate has become an actual entity. The clinic is experimenting of bringing from the lowest levels of consciousness and actualizing into monstrous forms the fears of infancy.

A former doctor at the clinic, whom the young doctor John Gordon has replaced, warns Phyllis against leaving her daughter at the clinic, and tries to assist her in escaping. Phyllis's husband, released from prison, tracks her down and attacks her; Celia acts as a doorway through which monsters emerge and kill not only her husband but others.

Well written and interesting, this is an above-average first novel. Written from the author-omniscient viewpoint, characters are depicted in some cases from their thoughts expressed in their personal thought-language.

The contemporary style of narration makes use of some current events in entertainment and in industrial products to add realism to the basically fantasy plot. This could be termed weird science fiction.



George, Stephen R.

Brain Child; New York, Kensington Publishing Corp.;  
Zebra Books (#2578), (1989, author) 352p.

Steve presented me with an autographed copy of his book.

I read it with more than my customary care. It impressed me as well above average for a first novel. The style is even; the plot is developed slowly and carefully from the incidents of everyday life to the encroachment of the unusual and fantastic.

I could not empathize completely with Phyllis Reynolds, the protagonist. Firstly, the spelling of her name is the first I have noticed differing from the usual Phyllis, and I found this distracting. Secondly, her personal habits of drinking, smoking and profanity, especially in the presence of her eight-year-old daughter, were disagreeable. Thirdly, her susceptibility to sexual temptation, her reading of the pornographic books, and her personal vanity detracted from the depiction of her as devoted to the cure of her daughter from the trauma caused by her ex-husband's sexual abuse of the girl; her casual getting drunk with David's mother when she should have maintained sobriety because of the children; her fixations on each attractive man who came along, and her dependence on them did not seem suitable reactions following the failure of a marriage because of her husband's quirky and debased sexuality. The depiction of her husband is so unequivocally brutal that I wonder how she came to marry him in the first place.

Too much of the plot depends on psychiatric practice and jargon that I wonder how thoroughly Steve researched current works. I am incapable of separating his ideas from what may be actual. This is undoubtedly a factor in making the story as convincing as I found it, but the violence and confusion at the conclusion of the story, leaving the reader with the impression that Phyllis had accepted Paul without regretting the loss of Dr. John Gordon, do not convince the reader that her daughter's cure and future were in safe hands.

These comments are devoted to my personal reactions to the story, and have little to do with any assessment of the novel as a literary entity.



Proofreading oversights?

- P. 18: smokey s.b. smoky.  
 P. 19: effect s. b. affect.  
 P. 20: behaviour s.b. behavior (American spelling)  
 P. 27: Line 7: like s.b. liked.  
 Simon And Simon s.b. Simon & Simon (TV Scene Listing)  
 P. 28: Line 10: who's s.b. whose.  
 P. 29: Dispell s.b. dispel.  
 P. 33: aberation s.b. aberration.  
 P. 35: disecting s.b. dissecting.  
 P. 40: Phylis sister's s.b. Phylis's sister's.  
 P. 56: inprenetrable s.b. impenetrable.  
 (note: this was correct on page 331)  
 P. 70: archetype s.b. archtype.  
 P. 77: one's s.b. ones.  
 P.103: it's s.b. its.  
 P.108: site s.b. sight.  
 P.118: Phylis s.b. Phylis's.  
 P.120: on on s.b. on (word repeated in error)  
 P.139: rocky s.b. Rocky.  
 P.140: lay down s.b. lain down.  
 P.145: thinks s.b. thanks.  
 P.152: It was Phylis reading the book, not Dora.  
 P.153: Wilkes lap s.b. Wilkes' lap.  
 P.166: your s.b. you're.  
 P.169: Circus elephants walk, or at least stand, on two feet.  
 P.182: who's s.b. whose.  
 P.191: a hallucination s.b. an hallucination.  
 P.202: smokey s.b. smoky.  
 P.205: stablize s.b. stabilize.  
 215 : Wilkes office s.b. Wilkes' office.  
 P.220: two man s.b. two men.  
 P.222: Celia's hair longer. Earlier in the story comment was made that her hair was short.  
 P.223: who s.b. whom.  
 P.235: your on our side s.b. you're on our side.  
 P.245: there should be no comma after the word "Occurrence."  
 P.255: caught her right cheek s.b. caught her on the right cheek.  
 P.272: kicked out of them s.b. kicked out of her. Refers back to somebody (singular).  
 P.277: similar to P. 272 where were they s.b. where was he, or the earlier word somebody should not have been used.  
 P.283: By who? s.b. By whom? However, people make lots of grammatical mistakes in ordinary speech and this is a quotation, so could pass.  
 P.297: Phelps' head.  
 P.303: peer s.b. pier.  
 P.325: stunk s.b. stank?  
 P.330: it's s.b. its.  
 P.339: comma after Dr. Phelps s.b. eliminated.  
 P. 111: sharpy s.b. sharply





George, Stephen R.

Brain Child.

doubtful word usage.

On page one the words "in resignation" are used. Should not resignedly be preferred?

On page seven, resentment is used. What changed Phylis's mood so rapidly?

I'm doubtful about the use of the words plush leather. The Webster dictionary states that plush is a cloth.

Steve makes this book colloquial by the use of TV programs, names, cereals specifically, and drinks. In the past such specific mention of products or programs was edited out because other products or programs would feel slighted. Has current practice changed?

On page 55 the word uncomplimentary is used. Is this word suitable?

On page 54 mention is made that there was no wind. On page 56 there is wind in the trees.

Just as a comment on Steve's style, I should say that it is even, a good literary narrative style, which advances the story to make for easy visualization by the reader, but in much greater detail than is acceptable since James M. Cain. Both the dialogue and the narrative passages could be more concise without affecting the story, but Steve's style makes for easier comprehension of his scenes.

I read this book more slowly than usual, because I was to a considerable extent proof-reading. Possibly my care in reading distracted me from getting the full impact of many of the incidents.





George, Stephen R.

Dark Miracle; New York, Kensington Publishing Corp.  
(Zebra Books (#2788), (October, 1989), (1989, author) 416p.

With each book, Steve has shown an improvement in writing style, but it is too colloquial for permanence, and is likely to become ingrained if continued much longer.

Harry Kent, a football player still immature at the time, left his wife and daughter and was divorced. His daughter is suffering and near death from leukemia, and he is able to go and see her during his summer holidays from his job as physical instructor at a school. Realizing that he wishes to resume his family relationship, he is ashamed to approach his ex-wife, but she, recognizing that he has matured, and being still in love with his boyishness and physical attractions, gradually accepts the possibility of a reconciliation.

A religious fanatic, preaching gloom and doom, has cured twelve (actually eleven) people of serious ailments, and Harry and his wife Leanna decide to take their daughter to him for a possible cure. Despite loathing the fanatic, they find that after he has baptized (or immersed) Allison in a pool near the church, she improves in health, becoming the twelfth.

Government DNA experimental work at an agricultural research area near the church has been discontinued for ten years, but is resumed because of the news of miraculous healings. Although the fanatic Hiller believes his preaching is the cause of the cures, it is actually the experimental work which has created a sentient but malevolent entity which is gradually spreading to encompass the entire town and might ultimately engulf the nation if not eradicated. The sub-plot involves the governmental agencies seeking to destroy this entity, even if it means annihilating the entire population of the town of 10,000 people to cover up the failed experiment.

Since any one of the twelve cured people may call on the power of the entity to control the physical surroundings, the girl Allison makes grass and trees wave without wind, the grass becoming lethally sharp like metal. People are injured and some die because of this, the entity using the twelve as agents and parts of its identity.

The action involves several individuals as well as the sets primarily dealt with plotwise, and the entity is beaten.

Chapter seven depicts me as a retired psychiatrist whose hobby is the supernormal. Steve flatters me considerably; my knowledge is far short of professional.

Although I think Steve's writing is too detailed and repetitive, he assures me that he is following modern models. I have not read sufficiently in modern books to contradict, but the graphic depiction of sex goes against my own taste, and Steve agrees that such explicitness becomes boring and is difficult to write interestingly.



George, Stephen R.

Dark Miracle

Typographical, grammatical and word usage comments:

- P. 5: pased s.b. passed  
P. 6: ~~begining~~ s.b. beginning  
P. 46: to him who knocks instead of to he who knocks  
P. 48: Hiller ~~s~~upported him or her, not them  
P. 50: read it? better use understand or interpret?  
P. 72: healed s.b. neeled  
P. 76: question mark after "for".  
P. 78: " " " "operation"  
P. 81: exhibiting s.b. uttering or emitting  
P. 91: "bag" is contradicted by "bags"  
P.105: "to more fully catch" s.b. "to catch more fully"  
P.117: "to simply be assimilated" s.b. "to be assimilated simply"  
P.138: question mark after How could he deny that  
P.152: have merely been s.b. have been merely  
P.154: (bottom) "tired" s.b. tried  
P.157: Allison was pouting now. (a few sentences later) She began to pout.  
P.166: Allison 11 years old. Ten previously. Was Steve thinking of the boy in the previous book?  
P.175: protruberance s.b. protuberance  
form s.b. from  
P.185: reticence s.b. reluctance  
P.191: (near bottom) mirror-like  
P.201: burgandy s.b. burgundy?  
P.231: situtation s.b. situation  
P.236: host s.b. hostess.  
P.237: phenomenon s.b. phenomena  
P.243: for whom? (an educated doctor speaking)  
(near bottom): quotation marks needed between "said" and "I"  
P.249: Period and quotation marks after "around"  
Question mark after do (?)  
P.250: "steepening" (?); deepening (?)  
P.270: "to the point" (the should be removed.  
P.271: (near bottom): "okay" - colloquial, but should not be used from author-omniscient point of view  
P.273: "plea" of a lunatic. "demand" or synonym instead.  
P.278: (near bottom) coffee keep warm for half an hour?  
P.279: coffee still cooling after the half-hour?  
P.282: clouds marred the perfect sky. The sky is not perfect if marred.  
P.283: He did now want s.b. He did not want  
P.301: Plasmio - plasmid? -  
P.310: "incomprehensibly" s. b. uncomprehendingly  
P.333: worse s. b. worst  
P.334: might have done it  
P.335: taller than she  
P.338: diminutive is misspelled, and is also tautological.  
P.339: frailty.  
P.378: okay s.b. all right  
P.380: By whom?  
P.385: protruberance s. b. protuberance  
P.407: reticent s. b. reluctant





George, Stephen R.

Deadly Vengeance; New York, Zebra Books (8217-4159-4).  
(May, 1993, author) 383p.

Steve brought me the advance proofs of this novel for me to proof-read on February 10, and I completed the notes the same day.

As in most of his books, the story-line is simple. A boy witnesses the drowning of his older brother by a five-member gang of older teenagers who have been persecuting, terrorizing, him. Fearing them, the boy allows them to claim accidental drowning, but grieves the loss of his brother and vows to complete successfully a model submersible on which his brother had been working.

Befriended by a girl newcomer to the village, a ten-year-old who is also mistreated by the gang, Alan is given by his father a Husky-Alsatian pup intended to help assuage the loss of his loved brother. At first reluctant to accept the gift, Alan soon becomes en rapport with the dog, and will not go anywhere without him.

The story opens with the gang beating Alan and destroying the model sub. Alan explains his injuries as an accidental fall, and takes a job with a sympathetic model store owner to pay for parts replacement, as he is determined to complete the project.

Alan's father, a faithful family man and writer, tries to influence his wife and son to forget the past and live for the future. His apparent failure to acknowledge their grief has caused a rift in his and his wife's sexual relationship, and after a rejection, he ~~XXXXXX~~ is easily seduced by a woman he meets at the Humane Society from which he obtained the dog. A reconciliation follows, and the illicit relationship is broken, leaving the woman resentful.

Alan and his girl friend let the air out of the tires of the bicycles used by the gang, and Alan is again punished, still claiming his injuries accidental. His resentment builds until the dog shares it and savagely kills and dismembers one of the gang. Alan cleans up the dog and denies knowing anything of the killing.

Alan's father learns from his former inamorata that the pup is the sole survivor of a litter produced by a bitch who destroyed the rest of the litter after giving birth because she sensed their evil nature because of experimental work on herself. A deputy who is the sole law enforcer joins with Alan's father to seek out Alan and the pup when it becomes obvious that the pup has killed and may kill others of the gang. The climactic chase and revelation of the murder of Alan's older brother end with Alan shooting the dog to end their mutual psychic affinity.

Competently written, this novel succeeds as a thriller, but only two or three of the characters are worth the reader's empathy and the boy's deceitful behaviour is the cause of all the trouble. If Steve is accurate in his portrayal of humanity, only a minority of people brighten a dismal world.



George, Stephen R.

The Forgotten; New York, Zebra Books (#3415), (1991,  
author) 351p.

This sixth novel shows an improvement in plotting and composition. Steve's writing has gained expertise with each novel.

Like most of his books, the plot is simple. A woman whose husband and son are murdered by teenage hoodlums and who was raped by them seeks a secure residence and enters a high security apartment house. She falls in love with the chief security officer, the single parent of a nine year old boy who is the only child in the complex.

This lonely child feeds and befriends a subhuman man who was victimized by brutal and alcoholic parents and who sought the sewers of Minneapolis to escape and has been living in them for twenty years. He enables the subhuman to enter the complex and roam the corridors, even though filth and terrorism result. The subhuman's attention is focused on the widow, a romance novelist, because he believes she is trying to rob him of his friend the boy.

The apartment manager is an unpleasant person who tries to dictate "by the book" to both staff and tenants, and who threatens the security chief with dismissal if the boy is not kept out of mischief. Learning of the growing attachment between the security chief and the widow, he tries to interfere by accusing her of impairing the chief's efficiency by distracting him from his duties.

The boy denies having helped the subhuman, steals ~~keys~~ keys to the locks securing access to the sewer outlet and lets the subhuman enter the building. Hungry, and feeling abandoned by the boy, the subhuman uses the air-conditioning system to enter several apartments and kill people with knives he carries about with him. The apartment manager, after the sewer outlet has been secured in order to trap the subhuman, orders the locks opened so the subhuman can leave the premises, thus avoiding calling police. The subhuman escapes to the sewers and the conclusion of the story tells of the chase by the widow, the boy and the chief through the sewers. The protagonists are happily united.

Although the suspense is well maintained throughout the story, it is not possible for me to admire the boy or his deceitful actions which brought about the tragic deaths of innocent people. The whole story could have been avoided if the boy had brought to the attention of his elders the existence of the subhuman so that the police could have located him and had him treated by welfare workers. The story could be frightening to elderly people living in such security apartment houses, especially when it is repeatedly said that security can always be breached.





George, Stephen R.

The Forgotten; New York, Zebra Books (#3415), (1991,  
author) 351p.

Pages on which I suggest review for technical reasons:

8 her's should be hers  
12 forego " " forgo  
29 somebody is singular. Next sentence refers to "them".  
37 like s.b. liked  
51 "fit-fine"~s.b. fitted.  
92 "eyes of" s.b. "eyes off".  
94 "they sky" s.b. "the sky"  
138 "who had written" is singular. One mind, "not their"  
141 "than I do" s.b. "than I have"  
148 "it was him" s.b. "it was ~~he~~ he".  
194 "known"~s.b. "know"  
199 "kids" s.b. "kid's"  
210 "harumphed" my dictionary does not show this word.  
219 "to much" s.b. "too much"  
241 "set of stairs"~s.b. "flight of stairs"  
257 "nobody" would stick "their" "head" out. Nobody is  
singular and head is singular, so "their" is incorrect  
328 "lay" s.b. "laid"

~ In general the word "softly" is used too often. I'd  
suggest the occasional synonym like "quietly".



George, Stephen R.

Grandma's Little Darling; New York, Zebra Books (#3210)  
(November, 1990, author) 320p.

Steve's fifth novel shows an improvement in story construction and composition, but its conclusion leaves the entity-villainess conscious in yet another of many bodies she has invaded.

A 12-year-old orphan girl is adopted into a family of three middle-class Minneapolis citizens including a nine-year old boy. Unfortunately, the mother of the father of the family has just been moved in with the family after losing her husband; the grandmother is in ill health and may be dying.

Nora has been with friends in the Children's Home, and has unsuccessfully tried several times to adjust to being an adopted child, has lost confidence in herself and people, and is half-inclined to return to the Children's Home rather than assume the responsibilities of becoming a family member.

Frightened by the grandmother, Nora suspects her of evil intentions and reports to Dr. Gibson her caseworker, a woman engaged to marry the publisher of a magazine devoted to inexplicable occurrences. Gibson has warned Nora that this is her last chance to avoid being institutionalized. Unable to credit Nora's fears, Gibson consults her fiancé who in turn seeks the advice of a Chicago scholar David Williamson who confirms that Nora's story may be factual.

Making a friend of 9-year-old Buddy, Nora has his help in defending herself against the grandmother's psychic attacks, but the grandmother succeeds in invading Nora's body and transferring Nora's soul to her own dying shell. The conclusion of the story describes the efforts of Nora to recover her body and defeat the evil entity, 2000 years old, which displaced the grandmother's soul after suffering an accident while in a beautiful blonde's body and had to take the most convenient, although not desirable, body available at the time.

The entity possesses Cheryl Gibson's body after being ousted from Nora's and the story ends with the magazine publisher wondering at the changes in his wife.

Because of the changing identities of the bodies and souls involved, this must have been a difficult story to write. The concluding chapters are difficult for the reader to follow because of the changing viewpoints.

Some technical notes are appended.



Pages on which I suggest review for technical reasons:

24 "latch on to" should be "capture" (?)

27 "scrabbled" s.b. "sought" or "searched" (?)

40 Nora thought that Frieda knew what she was thinking. As this is the only passage suggesting that Frieda had psychic sensitivities, and her actions throughout the novel indicate only mundane consciousness, perhaps this was a false note.

41 Nora was also this early suspicious of Grandma's psychic ability.

43 "gumption" s.b. "brashness" (?)

47 "peddle" s.b. "pedal"

69 "pissed off" Buddy belongs to a "nice" family. He uses vulgar expressions too often throughout for a 9-year-old.

73 "peddling" s.b. "pedalling"

73 Buddy saw the grandmother outside. He should have confirmed Nora at the breakfast table. This weakens the plot and the characterization.

77 Why should Buddy say that when he had seen the grandmother outside?

87 "your" s.b. "you're"

111 "shit" and "pissed" such words not normal usage in a nice family.

120 (bottom of page) "bared" s.b. "borne"

122 "handful of words" s.b. "few words"

132 "amount of calories" s.b. "number of calories" (?)

134 "had best admit it" s.b. "better admit it". Since the problem was to admit it or not, this is comparative of two things, not many, which would require best.

136 (middle of page) "intruder thing to" s.b. "too"

138 "millennium" s.b. "millennium"

153 "lay an arm" s.b. "laid an arm"

154 "couped up" s.b. "cooped up"

161 "single word" is tautological. The word "single" not needed.

167 "clutch" s.b. "clot" (?)

189 should have been worded: "of whom Nora was frightened".

198 "some if it" s.b. "some of it"

235 "lay her hands" s.b. "laid her hands"

266 "breath" s.b. "breathe"

281 "millennia" s.b. "millennia"

300 "scream" s.b. "stream"





How It Happens (4,367 words): Near the scene of automobile accidents footprints of two children are seen which seem to end without going anywhere. A traffic officer is told that fairies must be asked for permission before construction of buildings, and learns that a wealthy man has not observed this custom near the accident scene. He learns also that a previous building had burned.

His investigation of several accidents confirms the truth of the legend.

This story is expertly told, mainly by dialogue of the characters.

Overeaters Ominous (about 5,000 words): An overweight wife is scorned by her husband and contracts to observe a weightloss program. In return for a guarantee she agrees to obey rules and become a murderess if necessary to maintain her figure. This results in her husband dying, but she is told that only repeated killings will ensure a continuance. The story ends with her being so attractive that "she wouldn't have trouble finding men".

Steve showed me copies of the anthologies in which these stories were published, but I did not note their publication date so am not sure whether it (this one) was published or written before his novel Mirror, Mirror (as by Valerie Stephens) was written, based on the same theme. See my notes on the novel.

Both short stories are expertly crafted, but both are very much slanted for the markets they found and would have little appeal to the general public.

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**FirstCity Trust**



George, Stephen

Near Dead; Zebra Books (#3663), (1992, author) 317 p.

Steve presented me with an inscribed and autographed copy of the advance proof of this book. The errors I discovered by proof-reading are noted on the attached sheet, but too late for correction.

I believe this is the first book of Steve's which does not show his middle initial "R" as author. Does this omission mean a transition from the quieter early books to the more gruesome horror which this novel signifies?

His wife and daughter having been brutally murdered, the protagonist tries to block their memory from his mind and get on with his business and life. Needing his help to free them from a stage of enthrallment in the afterlife, however, they manifest to him, and when he refuses to acknowledge their reality, they appeal to Marilyn, a medium who tries to assist them.

The murderer is a mass killer who dons bloody garments and murders entire strangers. Knowing of his killings, his sister with whom he lives gets him to cease doing so for three years, but he resumes them, killing his employer who is his sister's lover. He goes on to other killings, and the police re-open the case with the co-operation of the protagonist and the medium.

The protagonist falls in love with the medium, learns from her of the reality of the afterlife, and accepts the call for help of his dead family.

The medium's character rings true to me. However, this book must be considered as psychic fantasy rather than psychic fiction because it does not portray the spirit world and the problems of communication realistically, but dramatizes and sensationalizes them for shock effect. Just as science fiction sometimes uses pseudo-science, and as pornography fantasizes sexual pleasures, this story fails to describe spiritualism as it exists in the beliefs of its adherents.

Although the medium also becomes a victim of the murderer, the protagonist is guided to a woman who will give him a life worth living, apparently with the approval of both his dead loves.

Steve has absorbed information about the psychic world, but his portrayal lacks authenticity which marks the work of the masters like Algernon Blackwood, Robert Hichens, Philip Gibbs, May Sinclair, and their like.



Notes on reading the proofs before publication:

Blurb: Last lines. She screamed should be She tried to scream.  
(The scream was not emitted.)

P.5 L.24: "stepped" left me with the impression that the print  
was a footprint. Should the word "moved" not have been better?

P.11, L.211: Aren't the words "dull" and "eager" contradictory?

P.13 L.44 nightmares "waltzing"? I suggest "to invade".

P.17 L.171: "what you" s.b. "what do you"

P.28, L.133: "disembarked" suggests a watercraft. "dismounted"  
or does that suggest a horse?

P.38, L.115: deja vu is repeating the already seen. She meant  
premonition.

P.46, L.395: "depths" s.b. "depth"

P.59, L.129: "use" s.b. "used"

P.62, L.237: quote marks should follow, not precede "Holdman"

P.67, L.20: "ressurrected" s.b. "resurrected"

P.68, L.39: "agrily" s.b. "angrily"

P.75, L.284: (grammatical) It was he.

L.289: It was he.

L.313: It was she.

P.79, L.29: "trial" s.b. "trail"

L.36: "anybody" s.b. "people"

P.81, L.98: "enflamed" s.b. "inflamed"

P.146, L.92: "McDonald" s.b. "MacDonald"

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

P.162, L.279: "sirens", not "sirems"

L.286 "they" s.b. "he"

P.165, L.10: "Columbian" s.b. "Colombian"

L.55: " " " "

P.171, L.236: "they" s.b. "the"

P.174, L.328: "close-minded" s.b. "closed-minded"

P.191, L.220: "queazy" s.b. "queasy"

P.200, L.150: "that" s.b. "who"

P.209, L.19: "they" s.b. "he"

P.210, L.25: "it" s.b. "he"

P.211, L.75: "well-maintained" contradicts page <sup>207</sup>~~415~~, L.415,  
"trim peeling".

P.229, L.321: "know" s.b. "now"

P.269, L.8: "him" s.b. "he". But since it was thought by  
Marilyn ungrammatically, no change is really essential.



George, Stephen R.

Nightscape; New York, Zebra Books (#3849), (August, 1992,  
author) 352p.

I agree with Garth Danielson that this book represents an improvement in Steve's writing style. There is more emphasis on letting the action and dialogue convey the thoughts of the characters, and practically no depicting by italicising.

In his usual manner, Steve leads the reader gradually from mundane incidents into the fantastic and horrible or unusual.

An 8-year old boy, left in the custody of his father because the mother was mentally and financially unable to care for him, experiences dreams which cause him to fear that his father intends to have him join an alien cult which includes the father and the red-haired mistress he has taken after his divorce.

The mother is still unstable financially, and is bothered by the desire of the father's parents, who are well off, to assume control of the boy.

An ex-cop, whose younger brother died while a member of the cult, seeks to avenge his death, but cannot find the cult members without tracing them through the boy and his mother; and violence to cult members by him makes ~~difficult~~ co-operation difficult and dangerous.

The ex-cop, infected with "shedding" when scratched by a cult member, fights against the suspicion that he is becoming like them, and like the boy, who has already become a "shedder" of his skin, which signifies a new and healthier existence in the cult. Every conflict is resolved when all parties realize that the cult is motivated to help, rather than to menace.

The scenes depicting the shedding and storage of skin, and the appearance and living conditions of cult members, are unpleasant, and do not lead the reader to accept the story's conclusion as a glorious one. The cult members form a Gestalt, but their way of life causes them to congregate in a small town in Minnesota, away from possible persecution.

Although competently plotted, this novel does not encourage the reader to sympathize with and like the characters. The mother and son are fearful throughout; the ex-cop is brutal and obsessed rather than the kind of man whose love for his brother is paramount and absorbing. The cult members lie and deceive rather than help as the conclusion indicates they should.

As a thriller, this novel succeeds.





George, Stephen R.

Nightscape; New York, Zebra Books (#3849), (August, 1992,  
author) 352p.

Noted while proofreading:

P. 37: stationary s.b. stationery.  
P. 108: Jon Doe s.b. John Doe.  
P. 258: flourescent s.b. fluorescent. c  
P. 279: "and Uzi" s.b. "and a Uzi"?  
P. 286: "a person in their (?) deathbed. person is singular;  
their is plural, so this is incorrect grammatically.  
P. 306: renewel s.b. renewal.  
P. 317: "The rifle trembled, but did not move" Trembling is  
movement. Would it not have been better to say "did not veer"?

Actually, Steve, this seems to be the least error-prone of  
all your books.





George, Stephen R.

Torment; Kensington Publishing Corporation (Zebra Books  
#4628); (1994, author) 380p.

Although Steve made no reference to it in this book, I believe he based it on the Mary Lurancy Vennum ("Watseka Wonder") case outlined in Myers's Human Personality.

April, a musical and mathematical expert at age 12 is killed in an automobile accident and her spirit tries to take over the body of Melissa, the 12 year old daughter of a wealthy woman and her architect husband, whose inferior status is emphasised by his wife's parents.

April's mother experiences psychic contacts with her and believes she will return; her father declares her dead and wishes to get on with his life, though he feels guilty at depriving April of the material things which might have advanced her ambitions.

Melissa's parents are startled and pleased when she exhibits musical and mathematical expertise; their materialistic doctor is sufficiently interested to insist on the orthodox medical and psychological tests; and religious advisers lead to mediumistic and parapsychological intervention.

April's mother's attitude holds April to the earth plane and strengthens her ability to possess Melissa. The medium warns the parents of Melissa not to contact April's parents, but her father has an affair with April's mother; this strengthens her attitude and she kidnaps Melissa to gain possession of her daughter's spirit, but is herself killed in an accident, releasing April's spirit and resigning Melissa's parents to her inadequacies.

I cannot say that this is a successful portrayal of the situation. For dramatic purposes Steve introduces phenomena and gives psychic perception to a degree not usual in real life. In fact, the whole story reads like a fictional adaptation of fact, and does not convey conviction to the reader.

For instance, the excessive grief of both families over what is happening does not agree with the fact of April's selfish hate of her father for failure to advance her ambitions. The father's grief and guilt over his inadequacies is not warranted: he did the best he could for his daughter. Melissa's father's inferiority complex does not agree with April's desire to intrude on her ideal family.

For me, overdramatization spoils my sense of reality. Maybe readers less acquainted with factual material will disagree with my reaction.

DIST: 024/WPG

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SSSSSS WW WW AAAAAA IIIIII NN NN EEEEEEEE
SSSSSSSS WW WW AAAAAAAA IIIIII NNN NN EEEEEEEE
SS SS WW WW AA AA II NNN NN EE
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SSS WW WW AA AA II NNNN NN EE
SSSSS WW WW AAAAAAAA II NN NN NN EEEEE
SSSSS WW WW AAAAAAAA II NN NN NN EEEEE
SSS WW WW WW AA AA II NN NNNN EE
SS SS WWWWWWWW AA AA II NN NNNN EE
SS SS WWW WWW AA AA II NN NNN EE
SSSSSSSS WW WW AA AA IIIIII NN NNN EEEEEEEE
SSSSSS W W AA AA IIIIII NN NN EEEEEEEE
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CLASS: Z  
PRINTER: AFPWPG8C  
SYSTEMID: TORVM3  
PRINT DATE: 02/18/94  
PRINT TIME: 13:08:29

USER/NODEID: SWAINE TORVM3  
FILENAME/TYPE: 349XOVW SCRIPT  
FILE CREATE DATE: 02/18/94  
FILE CREATE TIME: 13:06:41

START

George, Stephen R.

Woerloga (On some early pages "Dark Craft" is title.

Having told Steve that I was proof-reading his paper-backs, he suggested that it might be easier for me to read his typescript, since he uses a word-processor. This novel runs to about 100,000 words, and the double-spacing and even type with wide margins does help remarkably. At his suggestion, I have used pencilled corrections on the typescript, so there is no record being kept of those notes.

However, in addition to the pencilled notes, thoughts concerning the story came additionally, and are set down in this memorandum.

P. 17: How did she get there from Texas?

P. 57: Why would the liquor "slosh" noisily if the bottle was placed carefully?

P. 59: (near bottom). Awkward to end the sentence with "off in".

P.102: In correct grammar, the first sentence should end "it's she". However, in dialogue people are often wrong grammatically, and in proof-reading I have seldom altered dialogue.

P.103: Steve avoids hyphenating words. I do not know if this is modern practice. But I would hyphenate more, like the words "weed-choked" (3rd-last line).

P.107: Overuse of the word "blinked" This happens a great many times throughout Steve's novels, which would be improved by using synonyms.

Why separate "tea pot" and not "teabag"? ~ ~

P.114: If the bottle was nearly empty, would it "slosh"?

P.148: "single" is tautological - unnecessary.

P.153: "monotone voice". "voice" seems tautological.

P.158: "Thankyou" (again). One word or two?

P.164: Even if Matthew thought in such crude terms, this is in poor taste in the text. (1st par.) I'm not acquainted with the expression "buying the farm".

P.193: "shucked" - word used too often. I would use "took".

P.195: "Close enough". Steve, from what I have read, ritual and spells must be exactly enunciated.

P.220: (and earlier use) "nix" is a noun with a different meaning than Steve intended. It is not used as a verb.

P.296: "dim light" - But on page 294, last paragraph - "spears of light throughout the house". (?)

P.313: "moist divots" Yet subsequent scene describes dust several times.

Steve often uses English rather than American spelling.



George, Stephen R.

## Woerloga

Other matters interrupted my reading of this novel, and it is possible that the close attention to the mechanics of proof-reading detracted from my reading enjoyment. However, several factors made this novel less attractive and pleasurable than it might have been.

First of all, the coarse language, even in the thoughts of the characters, made me less sympathetic to them than I might otherwise have been. One of the key plot themes in horror fiction is the betrayal of innocence; the seduction or gradual revelation of evil to "good" people is paramount in creating in the readers' minds the suspense and fear for these innocent creatures. Therefore, these people should be portrayed with few blemishes.

Secondly, the marvelous events are accepted too easily by these "innocent" and normal-living people. I realize that most people have read enough fantasy and supernatural horror fiction that they are conditioned to accept such props unquestioningly; but in the best novels the characters struggle against their normal beliefs in reality before accepting any "supernatural" occurrences. Merritt's Burn Witch Burn! and Creep, Shadow are prime examples.

This is a simple story of a psychologically-injured policeman, his second wife, and his son, moving to a new home in an effort to establish a happy life. Husband and wife were previously resident in the place, but had moved away as children and were unaware of the witchcraft-obsessed people now living there. The man or his son, eligible as hosts for reincarnating the spirit of a 2000 year old ancestor, are welcomed, but the wife, whose powers are unknown both to her and to the townspeople, becomes hated and feared for her interfering power. She triumphs with the help of a rebellious inhabitant, and a "familiar" in the form of a wolf.

The conclusion, wife prevailing, but the husband taking again to drink, is ambiguous. Is happiness assured?





George, P. W.

The Lodge in Friendship Village; Introduction by Joseph Fort Newton; Illustrated; New York, The John Day Company, 1927; (1927 "The Masonic News") 256p.

Ten stories about the activities of a village Lodge of the Masonic Society. These confirm my belief that the Lodge promotes fraternity and good works and is usually controlled by an experienced and wise man.

Aside from the basic foundation laws of the order, no mention is made of its occult connections, and these stories are simply told and about the ordinary doings of people in a rural setting.

Although enjoyable, there is little memorable about them.

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**FirstCity Trust**



George, W. L.

Children of the Morning; New York/London, G. P. Putnam's  
Sons, 1927 305p.

Shipwrecked children recapitulate the barbarian state of mankind on an island off the coast of Venezuela in the Caribbean. This is an early example of Lord of the Flies, and I was more impressed by it than by the later classic. It tells of the reasons why institutions develop, superstitions, power of physical strength and cunning; and why instinct must prevail before morality is established.

This is an impressive novel of its kind, and although it might be classified as science fiction or fantasy because of the barbarism portrayed, it is really a "shipwreck story" of realistic category, and I have filed it with non-fantasy fiction.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gerard, Francis

The Mark of the Moon; London, Macdonald & Co, (Publishers) Ltd.  
(1952) 224p.

An American who seven years previously had escaped the Gestapo with the aid of a French Priest, returns from an archeological expedition to find a note from his wife saying she had left him, taking their baby son with her. Knowing that she had had a liason with a mysterious Frenchman prior to meeting him, Ray is sure that she must have returned to her master, and takes the trail hoping that the priest can again assist him in finding her.

His wife has beneath her left breast the mark of a crescent moon, and Ray learns of a murdered girl with an identical burn mark and finds a third young woman freshly marked who appears to be the common law wife of a handsome Frenchman. Stirred by her beauty, he is repelled and fascinated by her amorality.

A mysterious photographer appears to know more than normal of Ray, and assists him in avoiding designs on his life. Ray learns that the local police are evading their duty and that a nobleman has designs on the amoral beauty, but invites Ray to stay at the castle because he had known Ray's father, an ambassador.

The moon mark signifies members of an ancient religious cult devoted to satanism and sacrificing babies to a fire within a huge phallic image of Moloch. Ray's wife had been demoralized by her master, who boasted of this when Ray identified him as the local Prefet of police.

Ray saves his son just as the child is about to be sacrificed and after his wife has been murdered. The amoral girl is the sister of a police detective, only playing a part to assist him in investigating the missing babies; Ray marries her.

The disguises, role-playing and easy resolution of mystery make this novel one of a type. It is interestingly written, but like so many of its kind, unoriginal.

It could be classified as mystery-horror, but no fantasy elements are used. Borderline or associational to fantasy collection, because of satanism, I will place it there.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gerard, Francis

Secret Sceptre; London, Tom Stacey, 1971; original 1937) 286p.

Although listed by Bleiler, the only fantasy connection seems to me to be the idea that the Holy Grail is guarded by nobles who deem themselves above the law because of their dedication, and who wear armor and execute traitors to the cause.

Told in a jaunty fashion, and featuring a Superintendant of Scotland Yard who denies his duty in favor of joining the guardians, it involves informers, burglars, and a romance hardly necessary.

There is nothing apart from the variation of the Grail legend to recommend this thriller.

## **CONTRACTS (see Accounting)**

- Trade Correction
- Trade Reconciliation with CDS

## **SYMBOL MASTER (see Accounting)**

- Maintenance (A,D,C)
- Pricing
- Commodities
- All other Equities

## **INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT**

- Portfolio Evaluation
- Reporting Systems

## **INVENTORY TRADING**

- Profit/Loss
- Banking
- Trading

## **SECURITY/AUDIT**

- Internal
- External

## **COMMODITIES**

- All functions

Gerard, Louise

The Golden Centipede; Tenth Edition; London, Methuen & Co. Ltd. (February 3, 1910; 1926) 282p.

This woman's attempt to imitate H. Rider Haggard is an almost total failure. Beginning as his novels usually do with a long introductory preamble-- in this case the meeting of the principal characters on shipboard-- the story is mainly concerned with the search for an ancient treasure in West Africa. A brother and sister, influenced by hereditary pressures to emulate 16th century ancestors, seek it illegally, resorting on the brother's part even to murder, the disguising of each other to establish alibis for the brother by the sister impersonating him, and with her apparent immunity to the effects of poisonous centipedes' depredations, protecting their approach to the treasure.

The style spoils the narration; the brother and sister are referred to almost as if they were children in spite of the villainous character of the brother and the allegedly expert impersonation by the sister; the hero, nearing middle age yet apparently attracted to the childish girl referred to as his "baby", the native protectors, the German villain, are all stock types of the fiction of the time.

The most amazing feature of this book from my point of view is how it ever attained to a tenth edition.

### The Worship Committee, continued:

Our Church remained open during the summer months. Dr. Howlett took the services during July and one service in August. Dr. David Conly took services on 3 Sundays during August. One service was taken by Don Johnson, our Candidate for The Ministry. Don preached May 1st as well.

During the months preceding the Centennial Services, the Worship Committee worked with the Centennial Committee through our liason, Anne Crossin, culminating in the beautiful services which occurred on Sunday, November 13th. Guest Preachers were: Morning Service - Dr. Peter Gordon White; Evening Service - Dr. D. Bruce Johnson.

December 11th was White Gift Sunday and a delightful pageant was presented by the Sunday School. A service was held Christmas Eve at 7 p.m. with special music rendered by the Choir. The regular service was held at 11 a.m. Christmas Day.

The Worship Committee arranged for decorating the Sanctuary for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Coffee After Church was a popular feature, organized by this Committee, which continued through the winter months to the end of May.

Anne Crossin co-ordinated the donations of flowers for the Sanctuary during 1983. She would like to extend a thank you to all those who placed flowers to beautify the Sanctuary. They always went to sick or shut-in persons or to someone celebrating a special anniversary.

The Remit brochure was studied and discussed and a vote taken which was presented to the Official Board. Research was begun into the employment of Communion Table, Bible, plaques, Cross and other articles in the Sanctuary. A group met with Sharon Beckstead of Edmonton in November to discuss a degree program for church musicians, such as a Bachelor of Religious Music, as well as the role of the Church musician in the worship services.

It was a busy and rewarding year under the chairmanship of Susan Cowtan and a vote of thanks was extended to her at the last meeting.

*Susan Cowtan,* Chairperson

*June Anderson,* Secretary

### THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE and THE SUNDAY SCHOOL:

There were three full time classes throughout the year in the Sunday School:

Kindergarten	4 regular students
Primary	5 regular students
Junior	4 regular students

A music program was instructed by Emily Harasen.

The Sunday School organized several events outside the regular curriculum:

- Sunday School Picnic - June
- Hallowe'en Party - October
- Christmas Pageant - December
- Communion Bread was made by the Junior Class under the instruction of Rod Badgley for the Congregation's Fall Communion.
- For the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the Church the Sunday School made a Centennial Banner.

*Judy Ginter,* )

*Rod Badgley,* ) Co-Chairing Christian Education  
and Sunday School



Gerard, Morice

A Corner in Diamonds; London/New York/Toronto, Hodder and  
Stoughton, 1916 277p.

Centering around the theft of a thirty thousand pound diamond by an obsessive collector who had committed other thefts, reimbursing his victims by paying them the market value of their jewels, this novel has the usual romance between an amateur detective and the girl victim of the theft, and introduces a professional detective to solve the mystery which has baffled the police. It is a padded, superficial and improbable mystery, written well enough to sustain a modicum of interest, but of no permanent value. The author had written fourteen other published books, so must have been reasonably popular.

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Gerber, Albert B.

Howard Hughes: Bashful Billionaire; New English Library  
(#013030), (April, 1972), (Gerber, 1967, Lyle Stuart) 188p.

This paperback is an abridgement of the hardcover U. S. book, which I should obtain if it turns up. Much of the text was based on the book by John Keats, or from Keats' sources, but there are final chapters which give Gerber's own appraisal of Hughes and which are important in summarizing the attempts at biographies which were made prior to his.

It is also mentioned that the novelist Rupert Hughes was an uncle of Howard's, and that Howard lived with him wife also when they first moved to California from Texas.



Gerhardi, William

Futility: A Novel on Russian Themes; Preface by Edith  
Wharton; New York, Duffield and Company, 1923 256p.

Told in the first person (specifically denied the identity of the author), this novel concerns his pursuit of Nina, fifteen years old when he met her and her sisters Sonia, sixteen, and Vera, fourteen. Their father is living with his mistress, who acts as their mother who has another liason.

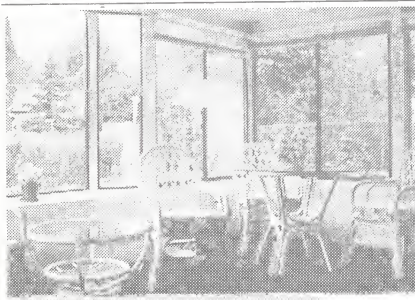
The narrator Andrei Andreiech tries unsuccessfully to untangle the complicated family , but is scorned because all depend financially on the girls' father who has fallen in love with a young girl whom he wishes to marry in spite of his mistress, who feels discarded and resentful. The youngest sister is the result of her mother's liason.

The father's financial resources are being exhausted and he dreams of recuperating them when his gold mine shares start paying dividends. Andrei describes how the family sponge on the father, following him everywhere because they have no other source of income.

After all his pursues Nina even to Siberia, he finds that she and her sisters are more interested in three brothers they have met and with whom they depart, leaving Andrei to go back to his studies.

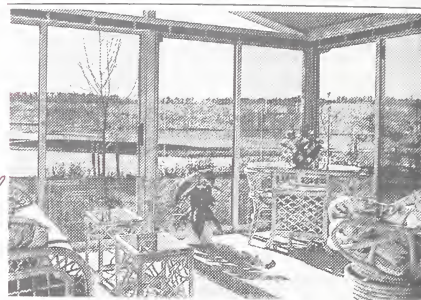
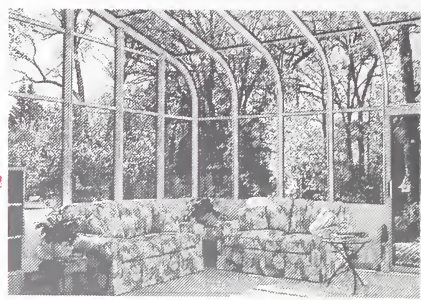
And so the story justifies the book's title, but leaves the reader with a satiric glimpse of Russia after the revolution.





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on location at  
**ENERSHIELD**

Gerhardi, William

Pending Heaven; New York/London, Harper & Brothers, 1930  
292p.

Two writers in their mid-thirties live Bohemian lives; Max visits Victor and persuades Victor's stenographer to go away with him, steals another of Victor's girl friends, and is also accompanied by a third girl who acts babyish though she is over thirty years of age. Max persuades the girls to go to Arabia with him where up to four wives is allowed; they live first in France where Max is swindled over a horse and cart. A fan of Max's books proves to be a beautiful girl with much money, so Max invites her to join his harem, which she does but without sexual commitment. Victor arrives and proposes marriage to the wealthy girl, thus avenging himself on Max for stealing his girls and leaving Max to soliloquise in the final part of the book, which is somewhat boring.

This tongue-in-cheek satire is amusing, but indicates that a surfeit of even wives can induce ennui

An amusing, but light novel about unusual characters.





Gerhardi, William

Resurrection; London/Toronto/Melbourne/Sydney, Cassell  
and Company, Ltd. (1934) 374p.  
London, Macdonald & Co., (Publishers) Ltd.; (Collected  
Edition, Vol. 6), (1948) 367p.

Although cast in the form of a novel, this details an out-of-the-body experience, the discussions of it which followed with various people, and the philosophical implications of immortality, comparison with Dunne's time theories, and an excellent description of the "soul" body meeting the soul of a friend who has just died as the conclusion of the book.

The rest of the book, comprising perhaps a too-detailed description of a ball attended during the 24 hours of the book's time-frame, and of the author's search for sexual-felicity among Arabs where he hoped to accumulate four wives or concubines, is humorous and clever, but perhaps indulgently exhibiting the author's cleverness.

The Collected edition has an introduction by Hugh Kingsmill, and appends a bibliographical note by the author concerning his life and works, and a detailed description of the books comprising this edition with notes on each volume.

Although I found the writing too detailed to allow me to read it quickly, my overall impression is that this is one of the best considered descriptions of the out-of-the-body experience available to students of psychic phenomena. The author is convinced of immortality, and tries to illuminate his belief on logical grounds and as the result of his personal experience.

This book should be retained for reference, and until science accepts psychic phenomena, must be considered as fantasy fiction.



Gerould, Katharine Fullerton

Lost Valley; New York and London, Harper & Brothers  
Publishers, 1922 (Harpers) 452p.

In a New England valley, exhausted soil and intermarriage of inhabitants have caused a decline, although the valley is still a beautiful scene viewed from a mountain-top.

The story line is simple: a beautiful girl whose life is so unfulfilled that her great love is her idiot half-sister, follows the idiot through many towns and cities in her efforts to rescue her from an itinerant hand-organ player and his monkey, fascination with which had lured her away in secret. Missing contact often by hours or days, finally Madge finds her sister who has just been killed accidentally in a quarrel between the organ player and his partner. Madge had believed herself to be in love with a painter who had been commissioned by a former resident of the valley to paint two scenes; but finally agrees to marry the painter's friend, an Irish American who recognizes qualities in the girl which had not attracted the painter.

Extremely well-written, this is still a woman's book, devoted to homely scenes and characters rather than to the philosophical or world-themes which are dealt with more by male writers.

The author was apparently impressed with the idea expressed on page 190, which is later reiterated:

"The Giardini tenement--a little old wooden house squeezed between two modern rookeries of brick--was a breeding place of hatreds. If--as I have heard that some people believe--walls could keep the vibrations of the human passions they have contained, and give them out again after many days, letting the stored horror flow about the helpless minds of later tenants: if such a thing could be, woe to the people who might succeed the Giardinis in that rotting house..."

This reference could be mentioned in connection with my correspondence with Donn Brazier regarding Richard G. Shaver's "rock books".

Although this is a good book, I doubt that I would wish to take the time to re-read it.



Vain Oblations; New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1915  
(Published March, 1914) 324pp

Contents

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2. The Mango-Seed	43
3. The Wine of Violence	83
4. On the Staircase	127
5. The Tortoise	177
6. The Divided Kingdom	233
7. The Case of Paramore	273

These are excellent stories, based on unusual situations. The first could be classified as a weird tale, excepting that there is no supernatural implication. It is the story of a girl abducted and raped by an African chief, whose tribal disfigurement of her enabled her to disguise herself from recognition by her fiance, and who committed suicide rather than permit him to suspect her identity. #2 is a portrayal of the meeting between a college boy and his mother whom he has not seen since he was a baby and who had because of her husband's illness taken him to remote parts of the earth. No disclosure of the illness was made, nor any hint of the great quality of the husband which inspired her devotion. #3 is the story of the mutual hatred of husband and wife, so great that when the wife learns that her husband is to be executed for her supposed murder, she keeps silent and allows the execution to proceed. #4 tells of a new house which has the uncanny faculty of showing precognitively the ultimate fate of its occupants, so that each sees a different "ghost". It is the only story in the book which is strictly fantasy. #5 is the story of a girl who seeks to find her lover's body, and who surrenders her own to a man who assists her, shortly before she learns that her lover has survived. #6 tells of another fatal conflict between husband and wife, which ends with the husband's suicide after he has surrendered to his wife's demands. #7 is the tragedy of an anthropologist who makes up the data of an expedition which he has been unable to carry through; and who makes expiation by later making an actual expedition whose results are abortive because no one can accept his discredited evidence.

A great deal of care and thought went into the writing of these stories, all of which are worth study.

#4 has been reprinted in:

"Ghosts Grim and Gentle" selected by Joseph Louis French  
"The Ghost Story Omnibus" " " " " " "





Gerrold, David

When Harlie Was One; New York, Ballantine Books (1972,  
Gerrold) 279p.

HARLIE is a computer (Human Analogue Robot, Life Input Equivalents) whose cost over a period of three years is so high that the officers of the company feel they must conceal from the stockholders the actual figure, and are doubtful that he can ever earn a profit. Auberson, a psychologist, is in charge of HARLIE, and considers him a friend, as HARLIE communicates like a human being so that a spinster school teacher and a mathematical physicist are surprised to learn that he is a machine. Handley, the technician working with Auberson, is his only ally when it becomes apparent that Elzer a Board member whose interest lies in streamlining finances is determined to shut down HARLIE and cannibalize him.

Annie Stimson, the Executive Secretary, is sympathetic to Auberson, and they fall in love. Annie realizes that HARLIE is emotionally immature and warns Auberson that he must not be treated as if he were a forty year-old man.

When HARLIE becomes aware of the danger of his extinction, and that this will mean the end of his mentor's job, he springs on the head office and several branches print-outs of a scheme for the building of a G.O.D. (Graphic Omniscient Device) machine, complete with financial feasibility plans, which will place the company in the forefront of all others. Auberson and Handley gradually awaken to the fact that HARLIE has quietly entered bank and other computer systems, and is in control of sufficient information to defend himself, but they are surprised when HARLIE resorts to blackmail against Elzer, and when they learn from HARLIE that because of the time which would be taken to transmit information over 193,000,000 miles of circuitry, the G.O.D. machine would be impractical for earthly use, though it would still operate from HARLIE'S cosmic point-of-view.

Conversations with HARLIE by Auberson in his efforts to understand the computer's powers and limitations gradually outline a philosophy of life and love which enlightens Auberson (and the reader). The author's specialized pleading for the purposes of the story is quite convincing, but I disagree with two of his main conclusions because I have experience or information which, if he had taken them into consideration, would have destroyed his arguments.

Nonethe less, this is adult science fiction of a high order, very well written and interesting.





Gerson, Noel B.

Double Vision; Garden City, New York, Doubleday & Company,  
Inc., 1972; (1972, author) 234p.

Ron Bentley, married to a sexy but flirtatious girl, tries to make her happy in a Connecticut country home of his ancestors but is accused of paying too much attention to his next door neighbor Millie, a boyhood companion. Millie and Ron discover treasure buried between their properties, which have never been accurately surveyed since their ancestors migrated from England. Among the treasure is a silver box containing a mysterious powder, on sampling which Ron finds himself transported to the body of his knighted ancestor, whom he resembles closely and whose wife is a duplicate of Millie, and whose mistress is Candy, his later wife. Transported with him (by magic?) is his cigarette lighter.

Enjoying sex with both women, and having a reputation as a womanizer, Ron is accused of cuckolding a swordsman and has to fight a duel. He is victorious, but his opponent becomes an enemy who accuses him falsely of treason in the battle of Oudenarde, where he fought beside Marlborough and Prince Eugene of Savoy, an alleged transvestite, but a military genius. This causes him and his brother-in-law to leave England for America.

A divorce from Candy makes possible marriage to Millie, and Ron settles down with her.

This pointless and superficial novel appears to express the author's wish to use historical research as background, but to little purpose.

Avoid re-reading this one.

Coalition for Reproductive Choice,  
Box 51, Station "L",  
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R3H 0Z4.

Dear Choice Supporter:

You are invited to a Choice Celebration. We will celebrate the first anniversary of the Supreme Court Decision recognizing a woman's right to reproductive freedom. We will honour Dr. Henry Morgentaler, who fought with us to win this right.

A Choice Celebration begins at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 16, 1989, at the International Inn. A presentation to Dr. Morgentaler will be made at 8:00 p.m. Wine and cheese will be served.

We hope to accomplish two goals from this event. First, we intend to develop resources to lobby the Federal Government regarding the introduction of any restrictive legislation on abortion. We need the voice of Manitobans to be heard. We have a critical role to play in the upcoming debate.

Second, we want to mount a legal challenge to the Provincial Government's decision to refuse to pay for abortions outside of hospitals. We know that abortions in approved medical facilities such as community health clinics are safer and less costly. We believe the government is acting unethically, perhaps unconstitutionally.

Tickets for this Choice Celebration are available at a cost of \$25.00. Larger donations are welcomed. Benefactors, who contribute \$200.00 and over and donors (\$100.00 - \$199.00) will be acknowledged in the evening's program.

Tickets can be purchased at Bold Print, 478-A River Avenue, the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women, 16 - 222 Osborne Street, Times Change Restaurant on Main and St. Mary's, or the National Council of Jewish Women at the Gwen Selter Creative Living Centre, 1588 Main Street. Reservations will be accepted by mail at the Coalition for Reproductive Choice.

Please join us, to celebrate our past victory, to honour Dr. Morgentaler, and to help ensure that our right to reproductive choice will be retained.

Yours sincerely,



**Choice** A campaign for reproductive freedom  
♀

Getty, J. Paul

The Golden Age; New York, Trident Press (1968, Simon & Schuster) 220p.

This book is little more than an expansion of How to Be Rich, but it does provide information on the prospects of longevity, and wise advice on changing careers for retirement.

He also goes into more detail on collecting and investment, and suggests practical measures for adoption in making life richer and more meaningful. He reminds me often of Sam Chapman, my deceased father-in-law, especially in his dealing with workers, treating them as fellow achievers and working along with them to finish the job.

Although not so important a book as the earlier one, it is an interesting supplement.



Getty, J. Paul

How to Be Rich; Chicago, Playboy Press (1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965 HMH Publishing Co. Inc.) 264p.

This is a very sensible book, a practical guide to wise and productive living and investing. A collector of fine art, G. A. Henty books, French furniture, and other objects which he found personally interesting, Getty agrees with me in just about every fundamental way, excepting that he is an active and industrious man, and I am a passive and sedentary one.

It is particularly important to study his remarks on Wall Street and investing. Although his is only one way to get independently wealthy, it is the soundest I have read, and I am already using it to advantage. If I had read this book years ago, I might not have had the experience to enable me to see its value; but in the light of my own experience I can give it a high recommendation.



Gheon, Henri

The Secret of the Cure D'Ars; London, Sheed & Ward, 1938;  
(First published, February, 1929); Bibliography 248p.  
(translated by F. J. Sheed, with a note on the saint by G. K.  
Chesterton)

Jean-Marie Baptiste Vianney, better known as the Cure D'Ars, was first drawn to my attention as an exorcist in Evidence of Satan in-the-Modern-World by Leon Cristiani. This Unicorn Books paperback is extremely well written and interesting and moderately presents the facts of his life.

Because I located two biographies, one for children by Milton Lomask entitled The Cure of Ars: The Priest Who Outtalked the Devil and Life of the Cure D'Ars by The Abbe Alfred Monnin, I will not summarize my thoughts until I make notes on these other books.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
May 24, 1998

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CELEBRATING  
THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY  
1962-1987  
LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE  
C A S E FÊTE'

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**FirstCity Trust**



Gheorghiu, C. Virgil

The Immortals of the Mountain; translated from the French by Milton Stansbury; Chicago, Henry Regnery Company (1964, Library Plon), (Trans., 1969, Stansbury 186p.

A Rumanian soldier on leave is killed at the entrance to his chateau home where he was to have visited his mother. It is the first crime ever in the district, apart from petty poaching by the peasants to stay alive, and a newly appointed judge, a young man allotted a sumptuous residence and a servant, investigates the crime.

He learns that a woodsman had killed the soldier's father a year previously, and immediately suspects that the killer has repeated his crime. The woodsman has escaped from the salt mines and is discovered on the railway, the only means of getting in or out of the village, with frozen hands and feet, and bearing small packages of candy for his six children who, with his wife are living destitute and in misery. The local chief of police claims the earlier murder as a suicide because his actions had prompted the woodsman to kill him after unbearable torture over a minor misdemeanor; and says it would have been impossible to blame the woodsman for the new crime.

Two detectives are sent to the village from a central office; they must solve the crime immediately and catch a train back to headquarters the next day. They promise the woodsman that he may see his wife and children and deliver to them the candy and his loving gestures if he will confess to the crime, so he does so.

The crime, however, was actually committed by the lover of the soldier's mother at the chateau, who killed the son to avoid his knowing of the affair. This lover admits that even if he had confessed to the crime, he would have been acquitted on the grounds of self-defence, but allowed the woodsman to suffer the penalty rather than inconvenience himself.

This whole book represents the author's portrayal of the wrongs suffered by the poor in Rumania, and the privileges granted the wealthy and powerful. It is a tragic condition, but merely an example of the oppression of the poor worldwide, and could be considered a pendant to the author's The 25th Hour.

This book deserves wide circulation.

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C E L E B R A T I N G  
THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY  
— 1962-1987 —  
LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE  
C A S E È È T E'

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gheorghiu, Virgil (should have shown preceded by C.)

The Twenty-fifth Hour: A Novel; Melbourne, London, Toronto, William Heinemann Ltd., (1950); Translated from the Rumanian by Rita Eldon; Preface to the French Edition by Gabriel Marcel 373p.

Very simply written and well translated, this novel depicts graphically the conditions in Europe during and after the second world war when countries under authoritarian rule and the mechanization imposed by technological and machine superiority enslaved human beings. Closest parallel to this novel is Upton Sinclair's The Jungle showing the oppression of the capitalistic system on underprivileged human beings. Nearest approach to portraying the struggle between the individual and the state that I have read are One by David Karp, We the Living by Ayn Rand, and The Great Idea by Henry Hazlitt.

An agricultural laborer is the chief protagonist. He is convicted of being a Jew, though he isn't; the bureaucracy imposes false evidence against him, he is for years sent from one concentration camp to another, his wife is forced to divorce him under false pretences, he marries a second woman who is raped by the Russians when they invade and is killed with the father of his first wife (who has committed suicide when the Germans lose). A second pair of lovers, a woman editor and her husband, are forced to flee because she is a Jewess who has tried to conceal the fact, make a sub-plot.

The son of a priest, who is also interned, is writing a novel called by the title of this one, depicting the horrors of technocracy and declaring that the hour after the end of any individualistic value has already gone all over our earth. He invites death rather than go on living. His wife becomes secretary to an officer in charge of recruiting for the third world war and is pleased with the overwhelming voluntary applications by whole families to serve. She points out to him that mankind has reached the point where the individual can no longer survive as an individual, and has no alternative to volunteering if he is to go on living.

This is a salutary and frightening novel, deserving in every respect the sale of 350,000 copies in the original French edition. It could not be published in Rumania for obvious reasons.

I see in the second-last paragraph that I am confused as to whether it was the editor's wife or the novelist's wife, but this does not affect my notes greatly. During the reading of the last part of the book I was battling the banking rules and regulations in my effort to obtain final payment for some bonds due August 1, 1989. Curiously appropriate in view of the theme of this book. I won out, but it was really a hollow victory, since the banking system will not be changed wholly, it will simply be modified by individual effort in exceptional cases, like mine.

Chester D. Cuthbert.



Gibbs, Dorothy, and Maltby, Herbert

The True Story of Maria Marten; Illustrated; Ipswich,  
England, East Anglian Magazine Ltd. (1949) 152p.

Many years ago, in books on dreams and psychic phenomena I read of the prophetic dream of Maria's stepmother which led to the discovery of Maria's body in the Red Barn, where she had been murdered by her lover William Corder.

This book appears soundly based, and has additional material to the evidence adduced at Corder's trial which illuminates the case. Most interesting to students of parapsychology is the information concerning Dr. Kilner narrated by R. Thurston Hopkins in Adventures with Phantoms and outlined on pages 146-147 to the effect that poltergeist phenomena accompanied his possession of Corder's skull; and on pages 150-152 suggesting that the stepmother's dream may never have happened and that she connived at the murder, was jilted by Corder who was a known womanizer, and used the dream as a means of exposing him out of revenge for his neglecting her.

Although many books and plays were based on this case, only this book and a novelized version Maria Marten, or The Murder in the Red Barn (which I have not yet read) have been located by me. The paperback was published in London by C. Arthur Pearson Limited long ago at sixpence in a series of copyright novels, and no author is shown.

Maria was a pretty girl whose favors were freely given to many men; she bore three children by as many fathers, but was flattered by an offer of marriage by Corder who was of a wealthy but improvident nature, and who swindled and forged to obtain money.

After murdering Maria, Corder represented that she was still alive but inaccessible; he advertised for a wife and married a good young girl who was loyal and loving to him all through his trial, and whose fate later was unknown.

This book is probably the best and most authentic popular account currently fairly available.





Eyes of a Gypsy; Toronto, The Macmillan Company of  
Canada Limited, 1926 255p.

This novel may puzzle the novice student of occultism and psychic phenomena. On the side of belief is palmistry, crystal-gazing, and clairvoyance in the form of Scottish Second Sight; negatively, a fanatic Catholic priest is depicted as superstitious for believing in devil worship, werewolves, and demon possession which he attempts to exorcise. As depicted in this novel, these attitudes are justified.

Despite all occult factors, this is not primarily a fantasy novel. It is a romantic love story, beginning with a shipwreck, continuing with business and art in New York City, and ending in the Rockies of Western Canada.

After three generations, Maurice's commercial art firm is failing because his father is more interested in his club than in business. With the death of his father, Maurice is compelled to end his own art career, continuing only in spare time and with the encouragement of a gypsy palmist Jacqueline Stuart, 48 years old but still beautiful and glamorous, and Peggie and Kenneth MacLean, artist and architect respectively. Tilted by his extravagant fiancée Gladys, Maurice is attracted by both Jacqueline and Peggie; but is renounced by Jacqueline in favor of Peggie and is confirmed in his decision by a visit to her mystical mother on their ranche. Peggie and Jacqueline are menaced by Senator Bonham who bootlegs and pursues women both personally and as a white slaver; and Jacqueline is believed to be a witch by a Catholic Priest who first met her on board ship, but who tries to exorcise her by whip and ceremonial, then exposes her to death by freezing with the aid of her guide Black Louis who has come within his influence.

Dealings with Bonham, scenes to illustrate Jacqueline's fortune-telling activities and business dealings, mention of a chain for clairvoyants' co-operative information controlled by Bonham, and incidental discussion of the philosophy of art and artists, music and travel, make up the body of the story.

This is an interesting and intelligent novel. I would guess that the author's knowledge of occultism is derived more from personal contacts than from books, and that he has not studied the subject deeply; his convictions are correctly in favor of crystal-gazing and clairvoyance.





Gibbons, Stella

Cold Comfort Farm; London, New York, Toronto, Longmans,  
Green and Co. (September, 1935) (September, 1932) 307p.

Although a prefatory note says: "The Action of the story takes place in the near future", only mention of dates 1938 and the mid-forties, and one instance of television by telephone, constitute the fantasy content of this story, so its importance in the fantasy field is minimal.

Primarily, this is the story of an unattached young woman who decides to live with whichever of her relatives seems suitable to take her with her hundred pounds a year. The eccentric Starkadders at the Farm appear most interesting and after investigating their being tyrannized by a shrewd old aunt who controls them by threatening that she will go mad if they don't obey her, she sets out to revolutionize their lives, and does so with common sense and success. The descriptions of the family and their relationships are very funny because the situations are dealt with seriously.

This book is considered, with justification, a humorous modern satire classic, and is much superior to the sequel.

Penguin Books (#140), (1949), (April, 1938) 248p.



Conference at Cold Comfort Farm; London, New York,  
Toronto, Longmans, Green and Co. (1949) 167p.

Flora Fairford, seventeen years after the incidents in the earlier book, has five children, but is asked by an intellectual who is one of the earlier characters to assist him as secretary of a conference of thinkers which is to be held at the Farm, which is now managed as a conference place by a syndicate. It has been modernized, with every room named and labelled, well furnished, and attractive, but is no longer represented by any member of the Starkadder family, most of whose men have gone to South Africa in search of fortune, leaving their wives in the local village.

Flora accepts the assignment, mainly to see what has happened at the Farm and to the Starkadders, from whom she has not heard for five years. She arranges to bring the men home, and brings the conference to a successful conclusion: i.e., to an end without its having accomplished anything.

This book is comparatively a pot-boiler sequel; satire is present, but Flora's common-sense fails to achieve much by comparison with the earlier book. Its main interest is in portraying Flora's and the Starkadders' later lives.



Fort of the Bear: A Romance; London/New York/Toronto, Longmans, Green and Co. (1953) 276p

An English Earl of moderate means is a veteran disillusioned of life in England and decides to settle in northern Canada, but tells his wife and retainers that they will all return to England after eighteen months. A young military friend who loves the wife of the Earl is invited to accompany them for a few months, and is soon aware that the Earl intends never to return and will use all possible means to influence the others to stay.

Even the pregnancy of a woman believed barren is terminated by the Earl exposing her to fright by a bear; his own daughter, a young child, is to be brought up away from civilization, his wife who loves him but hates the primitive conditions and lacks the social amenities she enjoys, is deceived. The loving friend makes an attempt to fly the wife and daughter away, but the plane crashes and only the little girl survives and is rescued by an Eskimo.

The Earl believes the girl to be the daughter of his wife and the friend (mistakenly), withdraws into a depressed and solitary existence, and the retainers, who love him but fear him, decide that they must escape. A simple missionary, made aware of the situation, talks to the Earl and manages to influence him, but only the Earl's death makes it possible for the retainers to return to England.

This story of a man possessed by an idea is very interesting and important. It is, however, a depressing portrayal.



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The Shadow of a Sorcerer; London, Hodder and Stoughton  
(1955) 285p.

This lengthy novel is almost a travel memoir concerning Austria and Venice, the descriptions being perhaps more important than the story.

Mrs. Lambert, a widow nearing sixty, takes her daughter Meg to the school operated by a part-Jewish refugee whom she and her husband had sheltered in England during three years of the war, so that Meg can learn German. Some young people at the school make company for both, but Mrs. Lambert, because of currency restrictions, has little money and can pay only one pound a week each for their board and room, and does some work at the school for the balance.

Esme Scarron, a wealthy divorced man, whose son was killed in the war, feels that Meg can give him something he needs to fill his life. He is a student and biographer of Paracelsus, and resembles the alchemist-astrologer-physician, and is apparently a man just over forty years old; thickset and rather ugly, but erudite and apparently devoted to Meg.

A scottish mining engineer, engaged to a childhood companion girl, arrives to refresh his German, and resents the apparent dislike of Meg, who has apparently heard of his expressing his dislike of girls under twenty, and treats him with disdain. On an expedition with the young people, he discovers that he loves Meg, and is miserable because he must explain to his fiancée that their match is off.

Meg, flouting her mother's warnings against an older man, announces that she has engaged herself to Scarron; this brings the engineer to realize his love for her, and he breaks off his engagement. When Meg hears of this, she tells her mother that she has only agreed to give Scarron his answer, and they visit his palace in Venice, where they meet his 35-year-old daughter and her mother a Princess of nearly sixty, and learn that Scarron is about sixty, that his son was brought up as a girl and ran off to be killed in the war, and that his daughter is insane and requires the care of the mother. This is enough to cure Meg of her thoughts of marrying a wealthy man, and she and the engineer make a match.

That Scarron has occult power is made evident by his ability to influence Meg to be sorry for him, and by his having been able to poison a young soldier at a distance, and to have caused severe pain to the husband of the German teacher, whom he had also caused being sent to a concentration camp where he contacted TB. Though he had spent seven years writing a biography of Paracelsus, only sketchy details of the doctor are given, so that the book, although qualifying as fantasy is of little importance in a fantasy collection.





Gibbs, George

The Silver Death; New York/London, D. Appleton-Century Company Incorporated, 1939; (1939, Publishers) 270p.

This is a kind of sequel to The Silver Dove which concerned the father of the hero of this novel, and an advanced aircraft. Although the author is prolific, this suggests a paucity of ideas.

The Silver Death is a German aircraft capable of speeds up to 500 miles per hour, much in advance of Allied aircraft at that time. Cyril Hammersley, brought up as Eric Sachs in Germany, has requested the aid of a U. S. Secret Service girl in hopes of using her beauty and wiles to entrap the pilot of the plane into indiscreetly allowing access to it so that it could be flown to England.

The story involves various secret agents, murders of a few of them, witty dialogue between the girl and the enemies, a romance between Sachs and the girl and their triumph over the handsome pilot and the agents who are seeking the plans of the plane. It is routine secret agent material, of no importance, but does touch on flying and the situation in Germany just before the declaration of war.

I believe I have several books by this author, but I do not consider him likely to offer anything of importance to me, so have taken steps to delay looking at any others of his books.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gibbs, sir Philip

Darkened Rooms: A Novel; London, Hutchinson & Co.  
(Publishers) Ltd., (n.d.) 286p.  
Garden City, New York, Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc.  
1929, (1929, Publishers, 1928, International Publishers,  
Inc.) 298p.

Bibliographical note: My copy of the American edition has a Grosset and Dunlap dust jacket. Perhaps mine was a remaindered copy distributed by the latter reprint firm.

Although I doubt that either Professor McConnell or Dr. Beamish takes the time to read much fiction, copies of this note are being provided them.

An unsavory slum lad learns stage magic tricks, becomes interested in spiritualistic phenomena, is encouraged by a fraudulent woman medium with some psychic powers to set up as a medium over his photographer's shop, gets a poor girl to live with him as his "sister" and use her genuine faculty as a crystal-gazer to support his mediumistic seances, falls in love with an actress whom the fraudulent woman medium had seen with him in her crystal ball and who with her married lover and a psychologist friend who studied parapsychology and another admirer had attended a seance with her.

The married lover, a respected lawyer, had never been more than platonically related to the actress whose father had trained her, but retired from the stage. His wife ran off with another man and wrote him for a divorce, freeing him to marry the actress, but he could not do so because a heart specialist had warned him of possible early death. This led him to seances in company with his psychologist friend and the actress.

Following the forecast death of the lawyer, the actress tried through the photographer medium to accept messages from him, but the medium, believing that she was fated to be possessed by him, tells her that he is possessed by the lawyer's spirit and that she must marry him. Loathing the medium personally, but chained to associate with him by the possibility of communications from the lawyer's spirit, the actress drowns herself as the only solution of the dilemma and the only sure means of learning whether she may join her lawyer lover in an afterlife.

A young friend of the couple finds the actress's body, but believes he also sees the face of the lawyer hovering over her.

Gibbs obviously studied psychic phenomena and mentions the titles and authors of authoritative books. Equivocal ending of the story and of incidents in the story suggest that the author was uncertain but hopeful of immortality.

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HERALD SQUARE



This is an excellent popular novel giving an adequate view of the beliefs concerning faith healing at date of publication.

The principle and facts of faith healing are confirmed by the author. He portrays a young physician who is materialistic and sceptical; his wife who is interested in spiritualism and faith healing; a young curate who demonstrates healing powers but is shy and doubtful of the adequacy of his faith, and whose celibacy is threatened by his hopeless love for a society woman, the spoiled daughter of a wealthy industrialist who falls in love with and marries an impecunious artist.

The aimless lives of the social elite and the impoverished but idealistic lives of artists, writers and musicians are outlined to illustrate the varying degrees of belief in faith healing; and an adequate summary of psychotherapeutic measures is given to show the possibilities, short of miracle, to explain the facts of cures. Near the end of the book, a journey to Lourdes is undertaken in an attempt to cure the paralysis of the artist, injured in an automobile accident, and who is ultimately cured, possibly as a result of the journey, possibly as the result of a restoration of the faith and healing of the curate, whose emergence from a retreat in a more peaceful and accepting frame of mind has enabled him to escape the grief of his hopeless love.

This is a lighter novel than the author's Darkened Rooms, which dealt with mediumship, but is well worth reading.





Out of the Ruins and Other Little Novels; Garden City, New York, Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., 1928 350p.

Contents

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5. The House on the Hill	124
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9. The Shock of Success	321

(1) is a rationalized ghost story, so does not qualify as fantasy (a soldier supposedly executed as a deserter turns up alive). (2) The son of a German industrialist and the daughter of a rich man fall in love and adopt a wandering vagabond lifestyle. (3) A girl of aristocratic family abandons her social set to follow a gypsy musician because she cannot resist the instinctive call of blood of an ancestor (this is tied ~~to~~ to the instinctive flight of birds). (4) deals with a medium consulted by influential people and leaves the reader ambivalent concerning the genuineness of her performance, but acknowledges her presentation of knowledge beyond the scope of normal communication channels. (5) An English girl marries an Italian count who hides the fact that he is under a sentence of death if he returns to his ancestral home in Italy. (6) The sister of a cure marries a movie actor whose face is his fortune but whose success leads him astray and who is punished by vitriol before he returns to his wife's loving care. (7) A movie producer is threatened with ruin when a key actor quits, and is rescued by an actress who offers herself in return for financial assistance to help him. (This is the best story in this volume, and clearly describes the despair and degradation of Berliners after the War.) (8) A Catholic girl falls in love with a Jewish doctor against the prejudices of both their families, with tragic result. (9) A poor novelist writes a popular book published under a pseudonym which becomes a best-seller, but loses him his fiancée because she has accepted a wealthy suitor before he declares his success; but he marries a stenographer who has nursed him through an illness.

Although this book is listed in Bleiler 1, the criteria for listing were two stories not easily found elsewhere than in such a collection. (4) only qualifies; but (1) and (3) might be considered associational or borderline. All stories are well-written, however, and (7) is worth acquiring the book.

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Gibson, Charles R.

The Autobiography of an Electron: Wherein the Scientific Ideas of the Present Time are Explained in an Interesting and Novel Fashion; Illustrated; London, Seeley and Co. Limited, 1911; Index; 216p.

This is an elementary exposition of the knowledge of the electron to date of publication, told in the form of a fictional autobiography as if by one of them. The principal events leading to the discovery and practical use of the electron are clearly and simply related, together with an introductory outline of each chapter constituting the scribe's comments.

The illustrations are reproductions of photographs of scientific equipment and spectroscopic results for experimental purposes.

The principal value of this book is in explaining the operation of the electron and electro-magnetism. Its fictional content is limited to the manner of exposition, and the book should be considered an associational item rather than fantasy.





Gibson, Reverend Edmund H.

A.D. 2013: Recollections of the Chaplain of a Space Ship; New York, Greenwich Book Publishers, 1958 62p.

Because of faulty scientific elements and the use of fantasy ideas, this is fanciful rather than fantasy fiction. The story is elementary, the characters are merely names, and the incidents and inhabitants of Venus are puerile efforts at imaginative creativity.

Although the author disclaims belief in transmigration of souls, he does postulate a Garden of Unborn Souls from which parents draw for their children. Some of his conceptions are spiritualistic, and might be of interest to those who subscribe to that philosophy, including the fragrance of prayer and the density of congregational worship.

"A New Universe Being Born" is a chapter devoted to the consideration of whether God finished creation or evolution and creation are still in process. Genesis seems to reveal that creation was concluded, but the author refers to the limitations of the writers of the Bible and indicates that it is the work of men rather than of God. This is one chapter which is suggestive, and aside from the rather elementary ideas and imaginative conceptions, the book has little worth.



The Fine Art of Murder; Illustrated by Cal Sacks; New  
York, Grosset & Dunlap (1965) 236p.

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(Niels Bruns & Morten Bruns framed Boren Qvist, an irate clergyman, to have murdered Niels, who returned after the death of his brother). I have read another account of this case, but whether as fiction or non-fiction, I cannot remember..)		
11. The Monster of Aurora	Alan Hynd	217
(Warren Lincoln, lawyer who murdered his wife Lina, and Byron Shoup, then inculpated himself)		

There are several truly horrible cases, 1, 2, 5, 9, 11, which could be compared with Gilles de Retz (Rais?)

See Sutherland for the Borden Case.





Gibson, Walter B.

Hypnotism; Castle Books Edition; New York, Grosset & dunlap  
Inc. (1970, Publishers) 124p.

This is a popular survey of the subject, written dogmatically and in narrative style, with few mentions of references.

For so short a book, too much space is devoted to inducing the hypnotic trance, but I could find no errors in the presentation of the material, and some space is devoted to Houdini and a thought that he used self-hypnosis or autosuggestion to achieve his mastery.

It is, however, a fairly good introduction to the subject.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
March 19, 2000



# CUSTOMER CENTRE

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Gibson, Walter

The Master Magicians: Their Lives and Most Famous Tricks;  
Secaucus, New Jersey, Citadel Press; Illustrated; (1966,author)  
Index; 221p.

This is an excellent survey of stage magicians and their chief tricks, most fully explained in the text.

As "Maxwell Grant", Gibson wrote the Shadow novels and was a prolific writer who wrote many books on magic based on his own acquaintance with many of the magicians.

Gibson practically ignores the spiritualistic activities of these magicians in favor of their stage magic, so this book is not of importance to me.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gibson, William

Neuromancer; New York, Ace Books (#56959), (1984, author)  
271p.

I traded with Steve George for this book, which he feels is far more important than the prize-winning book by an Alberta authoress which I traded him.

I told Steve that I had read this book interruptedly and without the concentration which its style requires, and that I did not understand it.

He promised to write me a review of the book, but has not had time to do so, so I am recording my thoughts.

Gibson portrays a future when organ transplants are united with electronic facilities which make it possible for human intelligences to interact computerwise. There are various levels of authority politically; crime and violence are common; outlaws are kept under surveillance by agents who are often themselves spied upon; communications are so efficient that escape is almost impossible.

I could not identify with any of the characters, most of whom are criminals without adequate personal histories to enable the reader to empathize with them. Their personalities seem to react to human motivations, but mechanically and emotionlessly in keeping with their partly artificial and technological bodies.

Although this book may be important as the first of a new man-machine category, it had no appeal or importance for me.





Gibson, William C.

Therapeutic Self-Hypnosis; New York, Caravelle Books, Inc.  
(Flagship #730); (1967, author) 128p.

Although poorly printed and invoking the Christian religion, this book details the preparation of a tape-recorded method of inducing the autosuggestive condition in the same method orally used by hypnotists. It lacks the cautionary wisdom of Peter Blythe's book, but is perhaps easier for the beginner.

There are some dangers in using tapes or records, but for those distrustful of hypnotists it may be useful.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
May 20, 2000



Gide, Andre

Corydon; New York, Farrar, Straus and Company, 1950,  
(Gide) 220p.

Apparently published early in the century, but not distributed or publicized, these dialogues summarize the author's view of homosexuality as a fact of nature. He cites examples from the works of naturalists and historians, pointing out that the highest known civilizations have viewed the practice as preserving the high status of motherhood, and that in some civilizations, prostitution of women has been a concomitant to the legal disapproval of homosexuality. Dr. Frank Beach of Yale University confirms Gide's main conclusions, but points out that, in general, homosexuality is a substitute for heterosexuality; and also that Gide's views do not explain that the practice is equally prevalent among women.

I think that this book might be considered an alleviation of the guilt feelings of homosexuals, and that Dr. Beach's remarks serve to up-date and correct the main thesis. One point that occurs to me, and which is not touched upon in the book, is that the sex-scent, which appears to be a motivating factor among animals, can hardly explain the continued activity among human beings after the cessation of the menstrual cycle in women. I am more inclined to believe that the glands of the individual force him to seek outlets, than that he is influenced to that activity by the action of extraneous factors.



Gide, Andre

Madeleine (Et Nunc Manet In Te); Translated from the French, with an Introduction and Notes, by ~~Just~~ Justin O'Brien; New York, Bantam Books (#9Y4014) 87p.

Gide says his wife was the one love of his life, but he was unable to communicate with her or understand her, and she was evidently self-sacrificing and unassertive. He was never explicit to her about his homosexuality, but seems not to have even thought that she might have sexual needs, and the question of children was not, apparently, discussed.

At one point he indicates that he had sexual relations with other women, but he idealized his wife, and his love for her was spiritual rather than physical. She aged, and on one occasion was taken for his mother, though she was only two years older than Gide.

The book was written after she died, but excerpts from his journal were used, though these were not included in the published version. Gide appeared to think that her death meant the end of any significance to his own life.

It seems to me that Gide's homosexuality left his wife feeling that she was worthless to him; she neglected her appearance and dress, destroyed his letters possibly from her feeling that his lack of physical attention to her meant that they were falsely affectionate, gave away to others presents he had selected for her, and although always kind and understanding to her husband, left him feeling helpless to ensure her happiness.

Although Gide is considered an important literary man, I found this book vague and dull, far from attention-getting.

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Giesy, J. U.

All for His Country; New York, The Macaulay Company,  
1915; (1914, Munsey) 320p.

This is a pulp fiction future war story about the invasion of America by Japan. Although it is a good story of its kind, it suffers by comparison with a world catastrophe classic like Connington's Nordenholt's Million.

A Mexican invasion of southern U.S.A. serves to concentrate defence forces in that area so that it is easy for the Japanese working in California as agricultural help to rise up and overwhelm the white population, nullifying defence arrangements and enabling the seaborne Japanese fleet to land and consolidate the conquest. The Japanese have also perfected long range gunnery to a point which enables them to shell from sea or shore at distances which afford them protection from retaliation.

Meade Stillman, whose father has invented a ship which takes its superiority from anti-gravity screens operated by radium, offers it to the U. S. Government, but it is refused because a Congressman Gotz discloses that Meade's father has never been cleared of a 20-year-old charge of money defalcation while he was a newly elected City Treasurer. Meade returns to his father's reclusive hideout determined to clear his father's name after mining sufficient radium from a large mountain of pitchblende they have found, to finance research into the old problem.

While in Washington he had fallen in love with the daughter of an influential politician who had been a friend of his father's, and tells her before leaving that he will return to serve his country if it needs him. When it appears that Japan will win the war, Bernice obtains the consent of President Gilson to search out Meade and get his help.

With the assistance of a secret service agent who loves her, Bernice accomplishes her mission; Meade working day and night builds three aircraft with the anti-gravity plates, and using them and compressed-air propelled bombs which magnetically attach themselves to targets before detonating, vanquishes the foe. The secret service agent is killed in action, and a brother of Gotz' wife who knows the facts reveals that Gotz had profited from the funds alleged to have been stolen by Meade's father, who is cleared.

Although obviously not written by an author well-versed in Government organization and personnel, this is an interesting novel.





Giesy, J. U.; and Smith, Junius B.

The Mystery Woman; Racine, Wisconsin, Whitman Publishing Co. (1929) 253p.

Inspector James Kirk unravels the mystery of a woman who dies following the attempt of her murderer to make it appear that her death was the result of a hit-and-run automobile accident. He discovers that her husband had killed her after learning that she had traced their daughter to a boarding-school nearly fourteen years after they separated. His reason for the killing was that he was intending under an assumed identity to marry another woman, and feared that his wife would claim the daughter and upset his plans.

There is much too much padding in the telling of this story, which might have made an acceptable novelette.

Kirk winds up as the guardian of the daughter, after her father commits suicide.

The characters in this book just do not act as they are portrayed, so that the story is unconvincing.



Gilbert, Russ H.

The Story of a Wigwam (Illustrated); Onset, Mass.,  
1904; (1904, Mary C. Weston) 165p.

Part one of this book tells of the building of a "wigwam" church by a group of dedicated spiritualists who wish to honor and preserve their contacts with Indian guides in the spirit world. It is quite astonishing to learn that so many as hundreds of worshipers congregated near Boston, and that the Church existed over a period of many years.

Part 2 of the book is an anthology of poems by Church members. These are mainly commemorative of people, Indian spirits, or the Church and its founders.

This is a curious and unique book for my collection of spiritualist literature.



Giles, Janice Holt

Tara's Healing; Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company, (Second Printing,), (1951, author); Family Bookshelf Edition 253p.

Apparently published originally by The Westminster Press, this novel is the last of her Kentucky Mountain trilogy. The earlier books were The Enduring Hills and Miss Willie.

I have not read the earlier books, but this novel does not require knowledge of them.

Tara Cochrane, a veteran captain, becomes a doctor but has a nervous breakdown and is invited to the home of his former sergeant to recuperate. He becomes interested in the simple life of this Church of the Brethren of Christ settlement, whose members share love and grief despite economic hardship, but falls in love with his sergeant's wife who is happily married so that he must endure his heartbreak silently. A minister of the church helps him to adjust to the life of the community, but is the son of a father accused of having killed his wife and who is hiding in the nearby hills, imitating a ghost to keep himself isolated. The selfless minister becomes Tara's model, and before he leaves he arranges to finance a singing career for a young girl who has fallen in love with him.

Involvement cures Tara, but the cure is accompanied by tasks like the establishment of a drunkard with a job to assist his wife and eight children, the community building a new home for a woman burnt out of hers, the rescuing of the young girl from the murderer, who dies before he can be captured, the nursing of an old woman dying of cancer, and an acceptance of minimal existence.

This is a good family novel.





*Climatologists are predicting*

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A teenage boy, living with his parents and a sister in a rectory, falls from his bicycle and suffers a fit. This scares him from activity, particularly because of partial paralysis of body and speech and fear of repetition of the fit. Several members of the family feel that they are to blame for the boy's condition for various reasons, and each tries in the conclusion of the book to cure him by a different method.

This is a totally inconclusive novel, touching on many different kinds of belief from religious, to medical, to occult, and to fear of the father's having contracted a venereal disease many years before while visiting a prostitute after drinking heavily with college friends who inveigled him into the situation. An uncle from India even uses a viper whose poison has worked to cure epilepsy there.

I had assumed from the title that this was a fantasy novel, but it is merely a study in varying beliefs and the uselessness of regular medical practice by comparison.

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CELEBRATING  
THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY  
1962-1987 --  
LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE  
Ç A S E F È T E !

---

**FirstCity Trust**

Gill, Merton M. (M.D.), and Brenman, Margaret (Ph.D.)

Hypnosis and Related States: Psychoanalytic Studies in Regression; new York, International Universities Press, Inc.  
(1959, authors); Bibliography; Indices 405p.

The authors premised that readers should be familiar with hypnosis and psychoanalysis, so perhaps I should not have tried to read this book as much of it uses the language of the latter subject with which I am not conversant. Anyway, I'm sure that I failed to comprehend much of the text; it seems to concentrate on an attempt to define the relationships between the hypnotist and the subject technically.

My main conclusion is that the authors have spent much time trying to fathom a situation which hardly exists in the casual contact between a dentist and his patient; yet the hypnosis works without emotional consequences. Perhaps I've missed the point of their research, but their long experimentation must have results not apparent to me.

The indices make this book a good reference if necessary.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
December 12, 2002



Gill, Stephen

Scientific Romances of H. G. Wells (A Critical Study); New  
Edition; Cornwall, Ontario, Vesta Publications; Chronology; Index  
Bibliography 160p.

I found the Chronology helpful and this is the most detailed  
study of the science fiction of Wells I've yet read. The publisher  
appears to be obscure and inexperienced, but the book is worth ha-  
ving for reference.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
December 27, 2004



Gilliam, David Tod (M.D.)

The Rose Croix; Illustrated by Ted Ireland; New York/Akron,  
Ohio/Chicago, The Saalfeld Publishing Company (1906, Publishers  
369p.

Told in the first person by a West Point student who left before graduation and adventured to Texas, this is a contrived and romantic love story with incredible scenes of delicate women masquerading as a "Little Chevalier", one engaging in a duel for little other than plot reasons with the soldier. As with so many novels of the period, the characters are enmeshed in circumstances which complicate misunderstandings and bring about incredible coincidences, even involving adventures in desert climes on another hemisphere.

The main action takes place in the years 1833-1836 and the hero is involved in the war between Mexico and Texas, with a long description of the battle of the Alamo.

This is a Masonic novel, and may have been vanity published. A heavy book with a luxuriously ornate symbolic cover, it promises more than it delivers.

Dreams, mesmerism and mystical hints make this borderline fantasy, but of no importance excepting to collectors of Masonic memorabilia.



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C E L E B R A T I N G  
THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY  
1962-1987  
LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE  
Ç A S E F E T E !

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**FirstCity Trust**

Gilligan, Edmund

The Gaunt Woman;; New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1943;  
(1943, author; 1942, The Curtis Publishing Co.) 307p.

This is a rough, tough novel of a Gloucester halibut Captain battling German submarines off the East Coast of America and destroying their supply ship, the title named, containing torpedos and bombs. It is one of the best war novels I've read, and seems to indicate a degree of education and deceit on the operations of the Germans beyond anything I've read elsewhere.

Mention of Canada might make this of interest to Colombo.

THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 1  
Human Rights Facilitator - Area I

EXERCISE I

Circle ten qualities you find most desirable for a boy to have in your classroom.

Inquisitiveness

Concern about Appearance

Gentleness

Charm

Independence

Adventurous Spirit

Neatness

Obedience

Leadership

Agility

Consideration

Ambition

Cheerfulness

Cleanliness

Talkativeness

Manners

Modesty

Aggressiveness

Resourcefulness

Critical Approach

Gilligan, Edmund

Strangers in the Vly; New York, Charles Scribner's Sons,  
1941; (1941, author) 261p.

Although listed by Bleiler, and said in the blurb of a later novel to be based on a Catskill legend, this book is about three dwarves who arrive in a new England valley after escaping from France with their coachman following an attempt to assassinate the Emperor. They are welcomed to an inn and are so charmed by the honesty and courtesy of the innkeeper and his pregnant daughter that they become benefactors of the valley's unfortunates, and the story ends as a Christmas celebration of the return from shipwreck of the daughter's husband.

Although told slowly and with good atmosphere, I see no elements of fantasy in this story.

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Gillette, Paul

The Single Man's Indispensable Guide and Handbook; Chicago, Playboy Press; (1973, author); 3rd ptg.; Illustrated; 331p.

This is a practical and useful reference book for single men, emphasising the Playboy philosophy and treating in depth the idea of women as delightful sexual toys.

Career, resumes, business letters, travel tips, passport regulations, housing, cooking, entertaining, etiquette, sexual advice, investments, clothing, are all covered concisely and authoritatively by an author who appears to live the life he advocates to get the most out of life.

This is not a guide for altruists, however. It is a selfish and sexually liberated guide to enjoyment.



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Gilman, Dorothy

The Clairvoyant Countess; Greenwich, Connecticut, Fawcett Publications, Inc. (Grest #22965) 224p.

There is nothing in this book which would indicate the author to be a Canadian, so only Vince Leah's declaration of this clued me in. *Likely Vince was mistaken APC*

This is a light mystery novel, episodic in nature as it could have been presented as a series of short stories, each illustrating the clairvoyance of Madame Karitska assisting the police in solving mysteries. There is sufficient variety to entertain, and the author dedicates the book to two psychics from whom she apparently drew her background for the character.

This psychic lady detective compares favorably with Mme Storey's non-psychic exploits, and the book can be recommended as an introduction to psychic stories for those who have not become too familiar with them.

## Lively mystery by a Canadian writer

**THE CLAIRVOYANT COUNTESS**  
Dorothy Gilman, Doubleday, 179 pp

If you are not much on mystery fiction Dorothy Gilman, the inventor of the sprightly Mrs. Pollifax, could easily convert one to enjoying detective novels.

This slender but highly-exciting and entertaining novel presents another irrepressible heroine, Madame Karitska, who has a style of her own, an unpredictable amount of psychic powers, an exotic past and

enough eccentricities to prepare the reader for the unexpected.

Murder, robbery, voodoo, a witch's curse, a missing person are just a few of the ingredients of this lively tale and you'll wind up cheering for Madame Karitska, the clairvoyant countess.

Dorothy Gilman must be Canada's No. 1 detective fiction writer. This is her seventh mystery novel and she has a dozen children's books also to her account.

VL



Gindes, Bernard C. (M.D.)

New Concepts of Hypnosis as an Adjunct to Psychotherapy and Medicine; Introduction by Dr. Robert M. Lindner; Foreword by Melvin Powers; North Hollywood, California, Wilshire Book Company; (1951, author); (1964); Cases appendix 262p.

This book by an experienced practitioner is a very good survey of the subject from early times to hypnoanalysis. Lack of an index is regrettable.

Throughout this survey, case histories to illustrate various sources of illnesses are given, one in the appendix duplicating another I had read where the unconscious imposed a physical disability to prevent murder.

The author uses psychoanalysis as well as hypnotism in his practice. His methods of inducing the hypnotic trance are very well considered, and like most responsible practitioners he warns against amateurs or entertainment hypnotists using it.

The text is so well organized that this book can be a very useful reference.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
November 12, 2000

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# CUSTOMER CENTRE

MANITOBA

The Ultimate Threshold: A Collection of the Finest in Soviet Science Fiction; New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Holt, Rinehart and Winston (1970) 244p.

Penguin Books (#4873), (1978)

244p.

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(1) is the story of an explorer and a scientist who come together at the crucial moment of plunging through the sun. (2) is the story of a self-sacrificing robot. (3) is the somewhat confusing story of an artificial woman created in a laboratory with whom a scientist falls in love. (4) is the story of an unappreciated questioning genius who turns the tables on his colleagues by showing that their brain-waves while intoxicated are the same as those from an empty skull. (5) tells of an invention which turns scrap into useful articles, and vice versa, and which goes out of control. (6) is by a woman, and the only story in the volume which mentions sex and its power to move a scientist from his path of duty. (7) tells of an inventor who has built a chamber of death as a boon to those who no longer wish to live, but who destroys it when it malfunctions, even though it means his own death. (8) is a time-travel paradox. (9) tells of an astronaut who returns to earth and meets his son and the son's family, but no traces of the ship in which he has arrived can be found. (10) is about a scientist who has discovered the secret of the source of energy which adds to a madman's strength, but who is killed before he can disclose his knowledge. (11) This is the story I attributed to the number (19), which should have been about an artificial man housing the soul of a husband and father who returns to watch over his family and guide his daughter after having promised his wife that he would return after death. (12) is about a machine which uses the ideas of scientists of various disciplines as the source of thousands of science fiction stories which it is to write. (13) is about an isolated scientist who develops a sort of astral image of himself which has power to duplicate itself; but the duplicates destroy one another, even though their physical and mental powers exceed those of their creator. It is this last and longest story in the book which provides the scene on which the dust jacket illustration is based.

I do not consider any of these stories to be great.





Gipe, George

Melvin and Howard: The Unauthorized story of a Dreamer and a Billionaire; Based on a screenplay by Bo Goldman; MCA Publishing (1980); Jove Books (#B5442) 222p.

A financially irresponsible factory worker meets an old man who has just survived a motorcycle accident, gives him a lift into Las Vegas, hands him a quarter, and is informed that Howard Hughes is the old man's name.

A dreamer, optimist, song composer, unfaithful husband, and straight-faced liar, Melvin fails to convince his wife of the story because she discovers that he has been gambling and has a woman's address and phone number, obtained when he gambled after he met "Hughes".

Melvin's wife wins a game show fortune, which he fritters away by purchasing expensive things on credit. Reduced to a job as milkman, he becomes indebted to the company through bad management, skips the state to become a gas station attendant, and marries a woman with two children. His first wife also remarries, but they occasionally meet again for occasional reunions despite their respective partners.

Melvin is given an envelope containing a will alleged to have been made by Hughes and leaving him 10% of his fortune. Afraid it is a summons, Melvin steams open the envelope, but replaces its contents, and sticks by his story. After the court hearing concerning the will, Melvin meets the old man again; "Hughes" remembers a song Melvin had taught him when they first met, and they are happy together.

Obviously, the will is a forgery, but this novel does not explain by whom the forgery was committed.

Melvin is a happy-go-lucky character, irresponsible, a loving and sensuous man; his wives are steadier, but also not either moral or able to control him. This is actually a light novel, romantic, and irrelevant as regards the real Hughes.





Gissing, George

New Grub Street; With an introduction by John Gross;  
London, Sydney, Toronto, The Bodley Head (Introduction,  
publishers, 1967) (First published, 1891) 425p.

Considered a period piece, this is really a depiction of the literary life of London of 1882-1886, showing the poor financial return of literary work, the poverty of the artist, and the success of the literary hack who improvises the latest ideas for the public.

It is also the family story of two couples, related to a wealthy family by blood or marriage, whose fortunes are in desperate condition because of devotion to literary art, and who are relieved from destitution by the death of the wealthy family head. The hack is frankly ambitious and sacrifices the girl he loves to the fortune of the girl who has deserted her artistic husband because of his poverty.

I deem this a novel which should be required reading for anyone with literary aspirations. It depicts the stark realities of the literary life, the continuing struggle for the means of existence, the hopelessness of the artist when inspiration fails because of lack of energy or because of the pressures of life which interfere with concentration on creative work, and the social milieu of England of that time, when even though Gissing describes the pressures of poverty on the writer, he has him served by servants who do not even qualify for names, and whose even poorer financial status he ignores completely. For me, this factor vitiates to some extent the value of Gissing's work, but perhaps I fail to accept a social convention which was so prevalent that Gissing was not even aware that he ignored its significance.

This book is valuable in understanding the problems of writers like Blackwood, Machen and Lovecraft.



Gissing, George

The Private Papers of Henry Ryecroft; Toronto, Bell and  
Cockburn (1903); Index 280p.

This could be called the musings of an impoverished man of letters who, in his declining years, has been granted a competence and is enjoying the relaxing solitude of reading and writing at will and not from necessity.

Such reflections are akin to those I feel myself as I begin my 65th year. Although my interests are not those of Ryecroft, my temperament is similar.

Had it not been so well written, this book could have been boring because of the dissimilarity of interests. It was a favorite of Coupland's, and I can understand why.

The index makes it unnecessary to take notes in detail. I can understand why it is considered a minor classic.



Gittins, Susan

Behind Closed Doors: The Rise and Fall of Canada's Edper Bronfman and Reichmann Empires; Scarborough, Ontario, Prentice Hall Canada Inc.; (1995, author; Source Notes; Index 320p.

Bob Kruger gave me this book for Christmas and I finished reading it today.

Although it is out of date and does not consequently tell of the revival of the fortunes of the two financial empires, this book is an essential reference to the events leading to the failure of Royal Trust and Bramalea, the evolution of the Edper companies from a family trust to a managerial controlled conglomerate, and the personalities of the movers and shakers of the two empires and their differing financial philosophies: the Edper being founded on share ownership and the Reichmann on debt.

Cockwell was right when he said that in a recession every large financial conglomerate had necessarily to suffer with the entire Canadian economy. The collapse of real estate values was basic reason for the dreadful reduction in the share prices of both empires.

My having profited twice from Brascan shares and having kept clippings about the Edper companies for about fifteen years enabled me to have faith in the competence and honesty of Edper management so that I invested in them when their stocks were in general disfavor. I have no faith in money or the capitalistic system because they are based on money and not on people and machines, the real producers of wealth. Money is not wealth; it is merely a token of wealth, valued only by agreement among people as a means of facilitating the exchange of goods and services.

This book demonstrates, however, that money controls the financial and economic world, and as long as it continues to rule self-defence makes it essential to save money and use it wisely.

Unfortunately, what transpires in the business world is not always fair and honest. Personal animosities between moguls can influence decisions which affect not only individuals but the Canadian nation. Paper obligations like mortgages and shares are valued at far more than all the money in the world, so financial crises caused by even one section of the economy like real estate or the supply of a basic commodity like oil can reverberate all over the world and cause booms or recessions.

Although I still have confidence in Edper management, I am now more fully aware than ever before that the economic system is so rotten that nobody is safe.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
December 28, 1997

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